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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

SECTION OF FOREIGN MARKETS.

[Under the immediate supervision of the Secretary of Agriculture.]

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THE WORLD'S MARKETS

FOR

AMERICAN PRODUCTS.

NETHERLANDS.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1895.

VALUES OF FOREIGN COINS.

The following table is an estimate of the values of the standard coins of the principal nations, prepared by the Director of the Mint, under the provisions of the act of August 28, 1894, section 25, and contained in Circular No. 119 of the United States Treasury Department of July 1, 1895, and proclaimed by the Secretary of the Department to be the values of such coins in terms of the money of account of the United States, to be followed in estimating the value of all foreign merchandise exported to the United States on or after July 1, 1895, expressed in any of such metallic currencies:

Country.	Standard.	Monetary unit.	U. S. gold value.	Coins.
Argentine Republic.	Gold and silver.	Peso	$0.96,5	Gold: argentine ($4.82,4) and ½ argentine. Silver: peso and divisions.
Austria-Hungary	Gold	Crown	.20,3	Gold: former system—4 florins ($1.92,9), 8 florins ($3.85,8), ducat ($2.28,7), and 4 ducats ($9.15,8). Silver: 1 and 2 florins. Gold: present system—20 crowns ($4.05,2), 10 crowns ($2.02,6).
Belgium	Gold and silver.	Franc	.19,3	Gold: 10 and 20 francs. Silver: 5 francs.
Brazil	Gold	Milreis	.54,6	Gold: 5, 10, and 20 milreis. Silver: ½, 1, and 2 milreis.
British Possessions, N. A. (except Newfoundland).	Gold	Dollar	1.00	
Central American States.	Silver	Peso	.48,6	Silver: peso and divisions.
Chile	Gold and silver.	Peso	.91,2	Gold: escudo ($1.82,4), doubloon ($4.561,1), and condor ($9.12,3). Silver: peso and divisions.
China	Silver	Tael (customs): Shanghai	.71,8	
		Tael (customs): Haikwan	.80,0	
		Tael (customs): Tientsin	.76,1	
		Tael (customs): Chefoo	.75,1	
Cuba	Gold and silver.	Peso	.92,6	Gold: doubloon ($5.01,7). Silver: peso.
Denmark	Gold	Crown	.26,8	Gold: 10 and 20 crowns
Egypt	Gold	Pound (100 piasters).	4.94,3	Gold: pound (100 piasters), 5, 10, 20, and 50 piasters. Silver: 1, 2, 5, 10, and 20 piasters.
France	Gold and silver.	Franc	.19,3	Gold: 5, 10, 20, 50, and 100 francs. Silver: 5 francs.
German Empire	Gold	Mark	.23,8	Gold: 5, 10, and 20 marks.
Great Britain	Gold	Pound sterling	4.86,6½	Gold: sovereign (pound sterling) and ½ sovereign.
Greece	Gold and silver.	Drachma	.19,3	Gold: 5, 10, 20, 50, and 100 drachmas. Silver: 5 drachmas.
India	Silver	Rupee	.23,1	Gold: mohur ($7.10,5). Silver: rupee and divisions.
Italy	Gold and silver.	Lira	.19,3	Gold: 5, 10, 20, 50, and 100 lire. Silver: 5 lire.
Japan	Gold and silver.*	Yen: Gold	.99,7	Gold: 1, 2, 5, 10, and 20 yen.
		Yen: Silver	.52,4	Silver: yen.
Mexico	Silver	Dollar	.52,8	Gold: dollar ($0.98,3), 2½, 5, 10, and 20 dollars. Silver: dollar (or peso) and divisions.
Netherlands	Gold and silver.	Florin	.....	Gold: 10 florins. Silver: ½, 1, and 2 florins.
Norway	Gold	Crown	.26,8	Gold: 10 and 20 crowns.
Portugal	Gold	Milreis	1.08	Gold: 1, 2, 5, and 10 milreis.
Russia	Silver‡	Ruble: Gold	.77,2	Gold: imperial ($7.71,8) and ½ imperial ($3.86)†.
		Ruble: Silver	.38.9	Silver: ¼, ½, and 1 ruble.
Spain	Gold and silver.	Peseta	.19,3	Gold: 25 pesetas. Silver: 5 pesetas.
Sweden	Gold	Crown	.26,8	Gold: 10 and 20 crowns.
Switzerland	Gold and silver.	Franc	.19,3	Gold: 5, 10, 20, 50, and 100 francs. Silver: 5 francs.
Turkey	Gold	Piaster	.04,4	Gold: 25, 50, 100, 250, and 500 piasters.

* Gold the nominal standard. Silver practically the standard. † Coined since July 1, 1886. Old half imperial = $3.98,6. ‡ Silver the nominal standard. Paper the actual currency, the depreciation of which is measured by the gold standard.

BULLETIN No. 5.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

SECTION OF FOREIGN MARKETS.

[Under the immediate supervision of the Secretary of Agriculture.]

THE WORLD'S MARKETS

FOR

AMERICAN PRODUCTS.

NETHERLANDS.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1895.

NOTE.—The consular reports in this bulletin were received in answer to the circular of inquiry sent out by the Department of Agriculture through the Secretary of State, and which is printed in Bulletin No. 1 of this series. These reports are preceded in each bulletin by statistics of the various countries treated, compiled from official sources and from certain statistical publications whose authority is accepted.

The publications of the Section of Foreign Markets heretofore issued consist of the following:

Bulletin No. 1—Great Britain and Ireland.
Bulletin No. 2—The German Empire.
Bulletin No. 3—France.
Bulletin No. 4—Canada.
Circular No. 1—Peaches and Other Fruits in England.
Circular No. 2—American Dried Apples in the German Empire.
Circular No. 3—Imports and Exports for 1893 and 1894.
Circular No. 4—An Example for American Farmers and Dairymen.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *October 1, 1895.*

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THE WORLD'S MARKETS FOR AMERICAN PRODUCTS.

NETHERLANDS.

The data contained in this bulletin regarding the area, population, agriculture, commerce, etc., of the Kingdom of the Netherlands are compiled from official and semiofficial sources, and from certain statistical publications of accepted authority in the commercial world. The latest available official publications of the Netherlands, viz, "Statistiek van den In-, Uit- en Doorvoer" (Statistics of Imports, Exports, and Transit Trade) and "Jaarcijfers uit- gegeven door de Centrale Commissie voor de Statistiek" (Annuary published by the Central Commission of Statistics), are brought down to 1893; the figures for 1894 are in most cases not available.

POSITION AND BOUNDARIES.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands extends through nearly 3 degrees of latitude, or from 50° 45′ 49″ north latitude (Mesch in the province of Limburg) to 53° 32′ 21″ north latitude (Groningen Cape on Rottum Island) and through about 4 degrees of longitude, or from 3° 23′ 27″ (Sluis in the province of Zealand) to 7° 12′ 20″ east longitude—Greenwich—(Langakkerschans in the province of Groningen). The greatest length from north to south, viz, from Rottum Island to Eysden, near Maestricht, is about 164 miles, and the greatest breadth from south to northeast, or from Zwin near Sluis to Losser in Overyssel, is 144 miles.

It is bounded on the east by the Prussian provinces of Hanover, Westphalia, and the provinces of the Rhine, and on the south by the Belgian provinces of Liege, Limburg, Antwerp, and East and West Flanders. A purely geographical boundary is formed to the west and north by the North Sea, at the northeast corner by the Dollart, and from Stevensweert southward to the extreme corner of Limburg by the river Maas, or Meuse. The land is generally flat and low, inter-

sected by numerous canals and connecting rivers; in fact, the country is a network of water courses. The size of the country is subject to perpetual diminution and increase. The principal rivers are the Rhine, Maas, and Yssel with the mouth of the Scheldt. In 1833 the surface of the Netherlands was only 3,270,960 hectares, or 8,082,542 acres, or 12,629 square miles, and according to the last cadastral survey of 1877, it was 3,297,266 hectares, or 8,147,544 acres, or 12,731 square miles. It may be said that the Dutch have wrested their fatherland from the sea, and no recorded work of man has been at once so bold, so vigorous, so intelligent, and so practical as the gigantic task which their far-away ancestors conceived, their forefathers carried on with triumphant success, and which they themselves are to-day prosecuting on a more stupendous scale than ever.

At least one-half of the 1,500 miles of the coast line of Holland and 500 miles of her river banks are dikes. The length of the interior dikes can scarcely be estimated, yet all that vast and costly work is but a part of what these intelligent and indomitable people have done for themselves. The four great works recently finished or still in progress are the Amsterdam ship canal, which cost $14,000,000; the new Rotterdam waterway, $13,000,000; the Merwede Canal, $10,000,000; and the new mouth of the Maas, $6,000,000. In all, $43,000,000 have been spent for better navigation by a population of but 4,732,911. But all these are dwarfed into insignificance by the works in contemplation in the Zuyder Zee, which will comprise 18 miles of sea dike and reclaim 211,830 hectares, or 523,432 acres, of which 187,000 hectares, or 462,077 acres (722 square miles), will be fertile arable land. To accomplish this will require 17,000 horse power for pumpage, consume thirty-three years in building, and cost, including interest, $126,000,000.

AREA AND POPULATION.

The territory of the Netherlands is divided into 11 provinces and 1,123 communes. The subjoined table shows the population of the Kingdom as returned by the various censuses beginning with 1830:

Population of the Netherlands.

Date of census.	Population.	Date of census.	Population.
January 1, 1830	2,613,487	December 1, 1869	3,579,529
January 1, 1840	2,860,559	December 31, 1879	4,012,693
November 19, 1849	3,056,879	December 31, 1889	4,511,415
December 31, 1859	3,309,128		

The area and population of the Netherlands by provinces, the former according to the census of 1879, and the latter according to that of 1889, as well as the estimated population on December 31, 1893, are shown in the following table:

Area and population by provinces.

Provinces.	Area in square miles (census of 1879).	Population.	
		December 31, 1889 (census).	December 31, 1893 (estimated).
North Brabant	1,980	509,628	524,043
Guelders	1,962	512,202	528,276
South Holland	1,167	949,641	1,021,435
North Holland	1,069	829.489	895,080
Zealand	689	199,234	204,561
Utrecht	534	221,007	232,316
Friesland	1,282	335.558	336,204
Overyssel	1,292	295,445	306,524
Groningen	887	272,786	281,970
Drenthe	1,028	130,704	137,456
Limburg	851	255,721	265,046
Total	12,741	4,511,415	4,732,911

Density of population.

Provinces.	Population per square mile.	
	December 31, 1889.	December 31, 1893.
North Brabant	257.4	264.7
Guelders	261.1	269.3
South Holland	813.7	875.3
North Holland	775.9	837.3
Zealand	289.2	296.9
Utrecht	413.9	435
Friesland	261.7	262.2
Overyssel	228.7	237.2
Groningen	307.5	317.9
Drenthe	127.1	133.7
Limburg	300.5	311.5
Total	354.1	371.5

A comparison of the area and population of the Netherlands with certain States of the Union is given in the table appended, from which it will be seen that the area of the Netherlands is very nearly equal to the combined area of Massachusetts and Connecticut, or about one-sixth of the area of the State of Nebraska.

The density of population in the Netherlands is 371.5 per square mile for the year 1893, as against 354.1 in 1889, an increase of nearly 5 per cent during the four years 1889 to 1893. Massachusetts and Connecticut showed in 1890 a density of population of 231.7 and Nebraska of 13.8. This means that at the same rate of population per square mile as was reported for Holland in 1893 the State of Nebraska would show a population of 28,544,000.

	Year.	Area in square miles.	Population.	
			Total number.	Per square mile.
Netherlands	1889	12,741	4,511,415	354.1
	1893		4,732,911	371.5
Massachusetts and Connecticut	1890	12,885	2,985,201	231.7
Nebraska	1890	76,840	1,058,910	13.8

PRINCIPAL TOWNS.

On December 31, 1893, the following towns had a population of more than 20,000 inhabitants, viz:

Amsterdam	446,657	Dordrecht	34,847
Rotterdam	228,597	Leenwarden	39,949
The Hague	174,790	Delft	31,125
Groningen	58,554	Nieuwer-Amstel	30,265
Haarlem	56,803	Bois-le-Duc	28,823
Arnhem	52,582	Zwolle	28,310
Leyden	44,340	Schiedam	25,573
Tilburg	35,586	Breda	23,883
Maestricht	32,945	Deventer	24,072
Nymwegen	34,671		

COLONIAL POSSESSIONS.

The colonial possessions of the Netherlands are situated in the East and West Indies, and embrace an area of about 783,000 square miles. The total population is estimated approximately at 34,000,000, about seven times as large as that of the mother country.

East Indies.

The following table gives the area and population of her dependencies in the East Indies:

Dependency.	Area in English square miles.	Population at the end of 1892.
Java and Madura	50,554	24,284,969
Island of Sumatra:		
Sumatra, west coast	31,649	1,262,838
Sumatra, east coast	35,312	229,500
Bencoolen	9,399	158,643
Lampongs	11,284	131,023
Palembang	53,497	664,800
Atjeh	20,471	525,579
Riau-Lingga Archipelago	16,301	83,000
Banca	4,446	58,313
Billiton	1,863	28,293
Borneo, west coast	55,825	382,758
Borneo, south and east districts	156,912	864,360
Island of Celebes:		
Celebes	49,390	1,450,400
Menado	22,080	542,567
Molucca Islands	43,864	370,918
Timor Archipelago	17,698	37,500
Bali and Lombok	4,065	1,339,600
New Guinea to 141° east longitude	151,789	200,000
Total	736,399	a32,617,506

a Approximate total. The population of several unexplored countries is not included.

The total number of Europeans and persons assimilated to them at the beginning of 1892 was 32,066 males and 25,816 females; of these 29,778 males and 25,227 females were Dutch, of whom 23,536 males and 22,482 females were born in the East Indies; of the remainder 1,118 were German, 253 French, 218 English, 200 Swiss, the others

being mostly Belgians, Austrians, and Africans. Of the remaining population about 445,000 were Chinese, 23,000 Arabs, and 26,700 other Orientals, and about 32,000,000 natives.

West Indies.

The Dutch possessions in the West Indies are Surinam or Dutch Guiana and the colony of Curaçao. The former is situated on the north coast of South America between 2° and 6° north latitude, and 53° 50′ and 58° 20′ west longitude (Greenwich), and bounded on the north by the Atlantic Ocean, on the east by the river Marowijne, which separates it from French Guiana, on the west by the river Corantyn, which separates it from British Guiana, and on the south by inaccessible forests and savannas to the Turmchumce Mountains. Its area is 46,060 square miles. On December 31, 1892, the population was 61,088, exclusive of the negroes living in the forests. The capital is Paramaribo, with a population of 29,131 inhabitants.

The colony of Curaçao consists of the islands of Curaçao, Bonaire, Aruba, St. Martin (in part), St. Eustache, and Saba, lying north from the coast of Venezuela. The following table shows their area and population:

	Square miles.	Population December 31, 1892.
Curaçao	210	27,254
Bonaire	95	4,053
Aruba	69	7,888
St. Martin	17	4,023
St. Eustache	7	1,633
Saba	5	1,926
Total	403	46,777

GOVERNMENT.

The Government of the Netherlands is a constitutional and hereditary monarchy, and the royal succession is in the direct male line in the order of primogeniture; in default of male heirs, the female line ascends the throne. The executive power belongs exclusively to the Sovereign, and is exercised by a responsible council of ministers. The legislative authority rests conjointly in the Sovereign and Parliament, or, as it is called, the States-General, consisting of two chambers, viz, Upper and Lower Chambers. The Upper is composed of 50 members elected by the Provincial States from among the most highly assessed inhabitants of the eleven provinces. The Lower consists of 100 deputies, and is elected directly from among all the male citizens who are 30 years of age and are not deprived by judicial sentence of their property. Electors are all male citizens, 23 years of age, who have either a land tax of at least 10 guilders, or $4.02, or a personal tax, which varies according to population.

WEALTH AND DEBT.

WEALTH.

In his Dictionary of Statistics, edition of 1892, M. S. Mulhall estimates the value of testamentary and succession property which changed hands in the years 1879 to 1883 as follows:

Houses and lands	$44,300,000
Dutch national debt	5,800,000
Other personal assets	63,300,000
Total	113,400,000

Excluding the national debt, we have the sum of $107,600,000, which, multiplied by 44 (as the lives were in these years forty-four times the number of deaths for that period), gives approximately the wealth of Holland, say $4,734,000,000.

According to a report by Alfred de Foville, director of the administration of finance, Paris, on the wealth of France and other countries, published in the Dictionnaire des Finances, based upon the learned researches of M. Boissevan, the official statistics in 1880 put the real property at $2,200,000,000, $1,600,000,000 for the landed and $600,000,000 for the house property. In 1892 the minister of finance of Holland, N. S. Pierson, taking into consideration the depreciation of rents, estimated the landed property as worth only $850,000,000 (twenty times the taxable income) and the total real property was reduced in his estimate to $1,450,000,000.

For the personal wealth applying to the existing capital the proportion deduced from the declared inheritances, $2,760,000,000 is obtained, and the total wealth would be $4,210,000,000.

DEBT.

Holland had no public debt till its conquest by the French in 1793, but when Louis Bonaparte was made King in 1806 the debt was $404,000,000, and it rapidly rose to $740,000,000. At present there is a set-off to the amount of $102,000,000 for state railways, and the debt may be properly stated at $331,000,000.

When Belgium separated from Holland in 1830 it caused a decline of revenue. The revenue and expenditure from 1830 to 1888 were approximately as follows:

Period.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Annual average.	
			Revenue.	Expenditure.
1831 to 1850	$457,000,000	$457,000,000	$23,000,000	$23,000,000
1851 to 1880	1,168,000,000	1,071,000,000	39,000,000	36,000,000
1881 to 1888	370,000,000	414,000,000	46,000,000	52,000,000

In the budget for 1895 the national debt, including the sinking fund, was $443,949,401, and the annual interest $14,145,700. From 1850 to 1894 there has been devoted to the redemption of the public debt $117,681,175.

According to the returns of the Eleventh Census of the United States (public debt) the total national indebtedness and the debt per capita in the Netherlands, the United States, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Germany, and France, in the years 1880 and 1890 were as follows:

Country.	Population.		Debt less sinking fund.		Debt per capita.	
	1890.	1880.	1890.	1880.	1890.	1880.
Netherlands	4,505,932	4,012,693	$430,589,858	$382,440,317	$95.56	$95.31
United States	62,622,250	50,155,783	891,960,104	1,922,517,364	14.24	38.33
United Kingdom	38,165,526	35,241,482	3,350,619,563	3,577,746,690	87.79	101.52
Germany	49,422,928	45,234,061	85,181,250	(a)	1.72	(a)
France	38,218,903	37,672,048	b 4,446,793,398	4,274,782,478	116.35	113.47

a Germany held $85,077,225 cash, and a sinking fund in excess of debt in 1880.
b Inclusive of floating debt, but exclusive of annuities whose capitalized value is estimated to be no less than $2,000,000,000.

AGRICULTURE.

CLIMATE AND SOIL.

The climate is uniform in all parts of the Netherlands; it is moist and mild, the humidity being maintained by the regularity and frequency of the rains. The mean annual temperature varies from 48.2° to 53.6° F. The annual rainfall ranges between 31.1 and 31.5 inches.

The Netherlands are divided into two well defined agricultural regions—the clayey and the sandy sections. The former comprises an area of about 3,700,000 acres, and extends all along the coast regions of the North Sea, as well as along the river banks. This is the region in which much labor has been devoted to the creation of polders.[1] The most gigantic of these operations has been the draining of Lake Haarlem, by means of which an area of about 45,000 acres has been rendered available for cultivation. Five-sixths of the productive surface of this section is occupied by meadows, pastures, and fodder plants. The sandy section has an extent of about 4,200,000 acres and comprises chiefly the southern and eastern parts of the country. The culture of cereals and industrial plants predominates here.

The appended tabular statement shows the employment of the soil, giving the classification of both the uncultivated and the cultivated

[1] Polder is a Dutch word, which has no equivalent in English. At an early period it meant a lake, pond, or bog, without natural drainage, the bottom being below sea level. Now it is used to designate a lake that has been drained dry, artificially, after being encircled by levees or dikes for protection against water from without and control of the water within. The word has attained in modern days a further and more exact significance, meaning an area of agricultural land of recognized boundaries, divided into separate (generally small) lots and ownership, surrounded by dike protection, and requiring it to be continually maintained in a state of efficient drainage by artificial means; it may or may not have been reclaimed directly from the sea. In other words, it has come to have a territorial significance. (Foster Crowell and Beekman's "Nederland als Polderland.")

area. The classification of the uncultivated area into waste land, water and marshes, dikes, roads, etc., is for the year 1888, the latest available. The classification of the cultivated area into arable land, meadows and pastures, etc., is for the year 1892. It will be noticed that the forests are classed as a part of the cultivated area, due no doubt to the fact that a rational system of exploitation makes them productive.

Uncultivated area.	Acres.	Cultivated area.	Acres.
Waste land	1,760,622	Arable land	2,112,021
Water and marshes	313,491	Meadows and pastures	2,849,271
Dikes and roads	109,488	Market gardens, etc	81,370
Untaxable area	228,451	Orchards and nurseries	55,904
Buildings and parks	93,527	Forests	562,029
Total uncultivated area	2,505,579	Total cultivated area	5,660,595

Meadows and pastures occupy about one-third of the total surface. Arable lands predominate in Groningen, Zealand, and Limburg; Friesland, South Holland, and Utrecht are characterized by the great abundance of meadows. Forests are of importance only in the province of Guelders. During the last fifty years the productive area has increased by about 500,000 acres.

The total extent of arable lands increased from 2,063,038 acres in 1873 to 2,112,021 acres in 1892, or about 2.4 per cent. This increase is shared in varying degrees by the area under cereals, potatoes, pulse, and grasses under rotation. On the other hand, there has been a decrease in the area devoted to industrial plants during the twenty-year period 1873–1892.

In the following tables are presented the area under the various crops, the average yield per acre, and the total production for the years 1891 and 1892, as compared with the ten-year period 1881–1890:

Area under crops.

Crops.	Average annual area for the ten-year period 1881–1890.	1891.	1892.
	Acres.	*Acres.*	*Acres.*
Wheat	213,092	144,759	183,388
Spelt	596	168	208
Rye	499,312	453,443	495,764
Winter barley	72,840	48,301	67,256
Spring barley	40,735	63,520	40,433
Total barley	113,575	111,821	107,689
Oats	287,358	377,344	312,354
Buckwheat on sandy land	109,267	96,893	85,620
Buckwheat on marshy land	16,084	10,751	8,644
Total buckwheat	125,351	107,644	94,264
Beans	87,532	100,753	93,690
Pease	56,873	69,210	59,489
Horse beans	7,131	9,150	8,700
Winter colza	18,930	5,557	18,636
Mustard and spring colza	2,066	2,884	1,156
Aromatic herbs and teasels	9,691	9,852	7,729
Canary seed	5,691	3,314	1,095
Various other grains	14,492	17,196	14,888
Potatoes	356,639	369,622	375,750
Sugar beets	50,235	55,674	60,742
Chicory	3,180	2,706	2,375
Madder	1,787	1,008	1,384
Flax	36,287	35,664	30,104
Hemp	959	578	388
Tobacco	3,049	1,623	1,443
Hops	390	143	166
Roots not elsewhere specified	56,240	62,904	62,976
Grasses under rotation	143,577	149,211	149,177
Fodder plants (second culture)	207,959	202,879	209,066
Fallow	40,814	37,680	34,636

Average yield per acre.

Crops.	Average yield per acre for the ten years 1881–1890.	1891.	1892.
Wheat ... bushels	26.9	24.2	29.3
Spelt ... do	43.6	35.7	43.3
Rye ... do	21.9	18.3	25.1
Winter barley ... do	46.5	43.1	50.1
Spring barley ... do	34.1	37.6	39.1
Total barley ... do	42.0	40.0	46.3
Oats ... do	44.1	49.1	48.0
Buckwheat on sandy land ... do	17.8	15.7	15.5
Buckwheat on marshy land ... do	9.0	6.3	6.6
Total buckwheat ... do	16.6	14.7	14.7
Beans ... do	26.0	29.8	25.2
Pease ... do	24.7	18.7	24.3
Horsebeans ... do	22.7	20.1	22.9
Winter colza ... do	27.2	23.6	29.2
Mustard seed, spring colza, and other spring oil seeds ... do	16.5	21.5	19.8
Canary seed ... do	29.3	22.3	23.7
Potatoes ... do	177.0	122.8	250.5
Sugar beets ... pounds	22,223.4	16,667.5	27,211.0
Chicory ... do	18,515.4	15,318.9	19,205.5
Madder ... do	1,315.1	881.0	1,022.4
Flax fiber ... do	442.6	370.0	378.8
Flaxseed ... bushels	11.7	8.0	9.1
Hemp fiber ... pounds	604.8	750.9	801.5
Hemp seed ... bushels	14.6	15.6	15.5
Tobacco ... pounds	1,914.1	1,476.3	1,909.9
Hops ... do	1,102.6	958.0	879.5

Production of principal crops.

Crops.	Average annual product for the ten-year period 1881–1890.	1891.	1892.
Wheat ..... bushels..	5,726,000	3,505,000	5,380,000
Spelt ..... do....	26,000	6,000	9,000
Rye ..... do....	10,945,000	8,280,000	12,432,000
Winter barley ..... do....	3,385,000	2,080,000	3,400,000
Spring barley ..... do....	1,388,000	2,389,000	1,581,000
Total barley ..... do....	4,773,000	4,469,000	4,981,000
Oats ..... do....	12,673,000	18,533,000	15,006,000
Buckwheat on sandy land ..... do....	1,941,000	1,515,000	1,328,000
Buckwheat on marsh land ..... do....	145,000	68,000	57,000
Total buckwheat ..... do....	2,086,000	1,583,000	1,385,000
Beans ..... do....	2,279,000	2,999,000	2,364,000
Pease ..... do...	1,405,000	1,297,000	1,447,000
Horse beans ..... do....	162,000	184,000	199,000
Winter colza ..... do....	514,000	131,000	545,000
Mustard seed, spring colza, and other spring oil seeds, bushels	34,000	62,000	23,000
Canary seed ..... bushels..	167,000	74,000	26,000
Potatoes ..... do....	63,108,000	45,406,000	94,112,000
Sugar beets ..... pounds..	1,116,391,000	927,947,000	1,652,848,000
Chicory ..... do....	58,879,000	41,453,000	45,614,000
Madder ..... do....	2,350,000	888,000	1,415,000
Flax fiber ..... do....	16,061,000	13,195,000	11,402,000
Flaxseed ..... bushels..	423,000	287,000	275,000
Hemp fiber ..... pounds..	580,000	434,000	311,000
Hemp seed ..... bushels..	14,000	9,000	6,000
Tobacco ..... pounds..	5,836,000	2,396,000	2,756,000
Hops ..... do....	430,000	137,000	146,000

Rye is the principal cereal grown; after that follow, in order of acreage sown, oats, wheat, barley, and buckwheat. With the exception of oats, the quantity of cereals produced is not sufficient for the consumption of the country, and large quantities are imported annually. Rye is used not only for food but also for the production of gin in the numerous distilleries. Of vegetable products other than cereals, potatoes occupy the largest area, 375,750 acres having been planted with this crop in 1892, producing 94,112,000 bushels.

The principal industrial plants cultivated are flax, colza, sugar beets, chicory, tobacco, madder, and hemp. The production of beet sugar is on the increase, but the total quantity does not suffice to supply the home demand. The principal fodder plants are clover, spurry, serradilla, and vetches. Root crops for fodder are mangold, turnips, and carrots.

Fruit and flowering bulbs form an item not unimportant in the export trade of Holland.

METHODS OF SOIL CULTIVATION.

There are various systems of cultivating the soil employed by the Dutch farmer, which may be classed in three categories: Intermittent culture, chiefly in peat soils; culture in the sandy soils, where the ancient three-year rotation of crops is principally followed; and culture in the clayey soils, where cereals alternate with industrial plants and fodder plants. Besides these extensive cultures, much attention

is given to truck gardens, hop fields, nurseries, orchards, and flower gardens, which latter occupy extended areas in the vicinity of Haarlem and Noordwych.

MEADOWS AND PASTURES.

As stated above, meadows and pastures occupy about one-third of the total surface of the country. The proportion varies, however, in the different provinces. While in Limburg only about 10 per cent of the total area is under permanent grasses, in the two Hollands, Friesland, and Utrecht meadows and pastures occupy from 48 to 60 per cent of their total area. The abundance of grasses and the multiplicity of the culture of forage plants are the causes that make the raising and the exploitation of cattle one of the chief sources of agricultural prosperity in the Netherlands.

LIVE STOCK.

The following table shows the number of the various kinds of live stock in the Netherlands for the years 1891 and 1892, as compared with the average of the decennial period 1881–1890:

Live stock.	Average annual number for the ten-year period 1881–1890.	1891.	1892.
	Number.	*Number.*	*Number.*
Horses	272,029	271,925	271,200
Mules and asses	2,342	1,973	.....
Cattle	1,485,757	1,532,153	1,528,400
Sheep	773,169	810,631	752,200
Goats	158,312	187,068	163,700
Swine, number enumerated in December	457,527	547,417	543,900
Swine, number farrowed and slaughtered during the year	363,100	440,581	424,400

A comparison of the ratio of the various kinds of live stock to the population between the Netherlands and the United States is given in the following table. The figures show that the number of farm animals per 1,000 inhabitants in the Netherlands is much inferior to that in the United States:

Number of live stock per 1,000 of population.

Live stock.	Netherlands, 1892.	United States, 1890.
Horses	60	239
Mules and asses	.5	36
Milch cows	197	264
Other neat cattle	139	557
Sheep	180	574
Goats	36	.....
Swine	127	917

If we make a comparison of the number of live stock per square mile, we find a result quite different from that shown in the preceding table. The following tabular statement shows the number of the

different kinds of live stock per square mile in the Netherlands for 1892, as compared with the United States for 1890:

Number of live stock per square mile.

Live stock.	Netherlands, 1892.	United States, 1890.
Horses	21	5
Mules and asses	.....	1
Milch cows	70	5
Other neat cattle	50	12
Sheep	59	12
Goats	13	.....
Swine	43	19

A comparison of the number of cattle per square mile in the Netherlands with other countries shows that there is perhaps no country so rich in cattle as this Kingdom; moreover, there is no country where cows are better cared for or their produce is better utilized. Live cattle form a considerable item in the export trade to foreign countries, where Dutch milch cows are eagerly sought for. Herd books of each of the races are carefully kept, and dairy products, butter and cheese, form a larger item even of the exports from this country than cattle. Fresh butter is sent chiefly to England and salted butter to India. Cheese, Edam and Gonda, is shipped to many foreign ports.

NUMBER AND AVERAGE SIZE OF FARMS.

The number of farms, their total area, and their average size for the year 1890 are shown in the subjoined table. The comparisons are made with the same States that were used in comparing area and population. In the United States, farms of less than 3 acres are not reported unless $500 worth of products were sold from them during the year. In the Netherlands all farms of less than 1 hectare (2.471 acres) in extent are excluded from the enumeration:

	Number of farms.	Total area.	Average size of farms.
		Acres.	*Acres.*
Netherlands	166,305	4,927,700	30
Massachusetts and Connecticut	60,724	5,251,714	86
Nebraska	113,608	21,593,444	190

These figures show that the average size of the farm is much less in the Netherlands than in the States with which the comparison has been made. Large estates prevail in the provinces of Zealand, South Holland, Groningen, and North Holland; small estates in North Brabant, Guelders, Limburg, and Overyssel.

The 166,305 farms in Holland may be grouped in three classes, corresponding to small, medium-sized, and large holdings. In the first class are comprised all farms from 1 to 20 hectares (2.471 to 49.42 acres) in extent. This corresponds very nearly with the class made by our

census of farms under 50 acres. The medium-sized farms, those from 20 to 40 hectares (49.42 to 98.84 acres) in extent, in the Netherlands are compared with those in the United States whose area varies from 50 to 100 acres.

The following table shows the number and the per cent of the total in each class specified, both for the Netherlands and for those of the United States that have been used for comparison in previous tables:

Distribution of farms according to size (1890).

	From 1 to 20 hectares (2.471 to 49.42 acres).		From 20 to 40 hectares (49.42 to 98.84 acres).		Over 40 hectares (over 98.84 acres).	
	Number.	Per cent of total.	Number.	Per cent of total.	Number.	Per cent of total.
Netherlands	140,897	85	18,304	11	7,104	4
	Under 50 acres.		From 50 to 100 acres.		Over 100 acres.	
Massachusetts and Connecticut	25,024	41	15,909	26	19,791	33
Nebraska	4,037	4	19,921	17	89,650	79

The figures show that in the Netherlands seventeen-twentieths of all farms are less than 49½ acres in extent, while less than one-twentieth exceed 98.84 acres in area. In Nebraska these relations are reversed; less than one-twentieth are small farms of less than 50 acres and about four-fifths of the total number consist of holdings having an area of over 100 acres.

TENURE OF FARMS.

The following table presents the number of farms cultivated by owner, together with the number rented for money or share of products, in the Netherlands and in those of the United States that were used for comparisons in the preceding tables:

Tenure of farm, 1890.

	Farms cultivated by owner.		Farms rented for money or share of products.	
	Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.
Netherlands	96,492	58	69,813	42
Massachusetts and Connecticut	54,487	90	6,237	10
Nebraska	85,525	75	28,083	25

PRICES OF FARM LAND AND ANNUAL RENTAL.

The system of intensive culture that is generally followed throughout the Netherlands yields large returns for agricultural labor. The annual rent of farm lands varies from $4.50 to $9.50 per acre in the pasture region; in the polders from $12.50 to $19 per acre, and in "Beemster"[1] it rises as high as $27 per acre.

[1] "Beemster," one of the most populous of the polders of the Netherlands, in north Holland, 13 miles north of Amsterdam. It has an area of 8,000 acres, with a village called Beemster. Population, 4,000.

The price of farm land is about $80 per acre in the sandy regions, while it rises as high as $500 per acre in the polders. The highest prices are paid for lands suitable for the production of hemp and for flower gardens. These latter are the only lands the price of which has not fallen during the last dozen years. There are exceptional instances where the annual rent for such lands amounts to $70 per acre.

FISHERIES.

Dutch fisheries are the most important branch of its limited natural industries, and the statistics relating to it are very voluminous and complete. In 1893 there were engaged in fisheries of all kinds 4,902 vessels, with crews numbering about 16,700. The produce of the herring fishery in the North Sea in that year was valued at 5,048,606 guilders, or $2,029,540. The total number of oysters produced in 1893 amounted to 15,790,000, one-third of which was exported to England.

THE SUGAR INDUSTRY IN THE NETHERLANDS.

Beet root may be said to have entirely supplanted cane as the material used for the manufacture of sugar in this country. The beet-root sugar manufacturer pays duty according to one of the two following systems, either of which he is at liberty to adopt:

(1) Under the "prise en charge" system the duty the manufacturer has to pay is calculated on the basis of an estimated yield of 3.086 or 3.20 pounds of refined sugar per hectoliter (26.417 gallons) of juice and per degree of its density, according as the process of defecation takes place before or after the last day of December. A supplementary duty of 5½ per cent is levied if the juice is subjected to the "osmose"[1] process, and one of 9 per cent if the Steffen[2] method of separation is followed.

The presumed yield under this system has not been altered since 1867, whereas the cultivation of the beet root and the process of manufacturing sugar from it have both improved since then, the consequence being that the actual amount of sugar obtained from the beet root exceeds the amount which it is estimated to yield.

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[1] Osmosis is the term applied to the process of the diffusion of beet molasses by means of which the soluble potash salts, which interfere with the crystallization of the sucrose, are removed. This is accomplished by diluting the molasses with water and placing it in chambers separated from pure water by cells of parchment, through which the osmotic force is exercised and the potash salts separated.

[2] Steffen's process for the recovery of sugar from beet molasses is accomplished in the following way: The beet molasses is diluted with water and cooled to a low temperature; in this state finely ground and freshly burned lime is added, which combines directly with the sugar present into an insoluble compound, lime sucrate. This is separated from the residual matter by filtration through a filter press, whereby all the impurities are removed and the sugar is obtained in a firm, hard cake combined with lime. The lime compound is subsequently beaten to a thick cream with water and the lime separated and precipitated by carbonic acid, and the residual sugar, which is almost pure, is concentrated and crystallized in the usual way.

This excess, or "overpond," on which the manufacturer has no duty to pay constitutes a great advantage for him, the yield of "overpond" having during the last few years averaged 22 per cent. The "overpond" may therefore be considered a general bounty on the production of sugar.

(2) The second system the manufacturer can adopt is the "exercise." In Holland one manufactory only is worked under this method. Duty in this case is levied on the direct output declared for home consumption. No previous duty is levied and no drawback granted on exportation.

The duty on raw sugar is calculated according to its saccharine richness, certain deductions[1] being made. A margin is thus afforded to the refiner, and turned by him to greater or less profit, according to the more or less perfect methods of refining he employs.

It may be added that there is at present a bill before the Second Chamber of the States General which has for its object, by means of stringent supervisory regulations, to arrive at a correct estimate of the profits accruing to beet-root sugar manufacturers and refiners under the systems described above.

With reference to the question as to how the duty on raw sugar is levied and as to how the drawback is granted to refiners on sugar exported, an eminent authority states:

> The duty on raw sugar (for home consumption) and the equivalent drawback granted to refiners (on exportation) is calculated according to its saccharine richness as ascertained by the polariscope with deduction of the glucose with the coefficient 2 and the ash with the coefficient 4. A further deduction for waste during the refining process is made of 1½ per cent in the case of beet-root sugar and of 2½ per cent in the case of cane sugar.

With regard to the amount of duty on raw sugar paid by the refiners and the amount of drawback granted to refiners on export, he says:

> The amount of duty on raw sugar paid by the refiners is 27 florins ($10.854) per 100 kilograms or 220.462 pounds, of refined sugar, and the amount of the drawback paid to refiners on exports is the same, viz: 27 florins ($10.854) per 100 kilograms (220.462 pounds) of refined sugar exported. The home consumption of sugar in Holland is estimated at about 90,000,000 pounds, and the amount of duty paid for sugar consumed in Holland is 8,500,000 florins ($3,417,000).

The following table shows the number of sugar works in the Netherlands, as well as the quantity of raw beet sugar produced by them for the five campaign years 1889–90 to 1893–94:

Year.	Number of factories in operation.	Quantity of raw beet sugar produced.	
		Kilograms.	Pounds.
1889–90	30	52,853,000	116,521,000
1890–91	30	58,056,000	127,991,000
1891–92	30	35,505,000	78,275,000
1892–93	30	51,568,000	113,688,000
1893–94	30	56,811,000	125,247,000

[1] Deduction of glucose with coefficient 2 and ash with coefficient 4, and a further deduction for waste of 1½ per cent.

The number of refineries and the quantities of raw sugar imported by them are shown in the following table:

Year.	Number of refineries.	Sugar imported from Dutch colonies.	Sugar imported from other countries.	Total quantity imported by refineries.
		Pounds.	*Pounds.*	*Pounds.*
1889	13	4,680,000	194,873,000	199,553,000
1890	13	3,675,000	241,108,000	244,783,000
1891	13	3,468,000	199,763,000	203,231,000
1892	13	4,232,000	251,342,000	255,665,000
1893	13	3,360,000	217,532,000	220,892,000

CONSUMPTION OF SUGAR.

The central commission of statistics for the Netherlands has just issued the results of an extensive investigation into the consumption of the principal articles of food, from which the following table is compiled. Attention is called to the fact that refined sugar only is considered; sirup and molasses are not included in the quantities:

Consumption of refined sugar in the Netherlands.

Years.	Quantities of refined sugar consumed.	Population (estimated).	Consumption per capita.
	Pounds.		*Pounds.*
1851–53 (average)	18,519,000	3,125,000	5.9
1862	33,731,000	3,375,000	10.0
1872	41,888,000	3,642,000	11.5
1886	71,871,000	4,340,000	16.6
1892	90,389,000	4,646,000	19.5

COLONIAL PRODUCTION OF TOBACCO AND CINCHONA.

TOBACCO CULTURE IN JAVA AND SUMATRA.

In the Dutch East Indies there are two territories producing tobacco, one in the lowlands of the eastern coast of Sumatra, the other in central and eastern Java.

The Sumatra tobacco planters passed through a severe crisis during the years 1890 to 1892, as will be seen by a comparison of the following figures of production:

Production of tobacco in Sumatra.

Year.	Quantity (bales of 175 pounds).	Price per ½ kilogram.	Total value.
1883	93,533	$0.538	$7,698,300
1884	125,496	.280	11,075,100
1885	124,911	.569	10,843,950
1886	139,512	.619	13,105,200
1887	144,577	.485	10,713,300
1888	182,284	.517	14,271,000
1889	184,322	.586	16,321,200
1890	236,323	.291	10,452,000
1891	225,629	.368	12,622,800
1892	144,689	.507	10,733,400

The average annual consumption of Sumatra tobacco is estimated at 170,000 to 180,000 bales, so that there was a large overproduction in 1890 and 1891, bringing about a heavy reduction in the price of the article.

The following table shows the production of tobacco in Java for the years 1883 to 1892:

Year.	Quantity in bales.	Price per ½ kilogram.	Year.	Quantity in bales.	Price per ½ kilogram.
1883	72,648	$0.206	1888	169,830	$0.108
1884	122,705	.147	1889	141,115	.125
1885	109,764	.148	1890	182,924	.102
1886	105,702	.150	1891	137,630	.134
1887	138,084	.151	1892	179,252	.136

Java tobacco has a much lower value than Sumatra tobacco, because the latter is used exclusively for cigar wrappers.

The difference in the profit to the grower of these two kinds of tobacco is not so great as the difference in the selling price would seem to indicate. To raise Sumatra tobacco it is necessary to employ skilled foreign workmen, and many Chinese and other Asiatic coolies are imported into the country for that purpose, who, when the time of their contract expires, leave and have to be replaced by others. This causes great expenditure in the cultivation of this kind of tobacco, and the price obtained for the crop must necessarily be high in order to cover the cost of production. In the island of Java, with an area of 50,544 square miles and 24,284,969 inhabitants (an average of 480 inhabitants per square mile), native skilled farm laborers are to be had for very moderate wages.

The quality of the tobacco grown in different parts of middle and east Java varies greatly. The best tobacco is grown in central Java, in the districts of Djokjakarta and Soerakarta, both royal lands and in the eastern part of the island, in Bezoeki. The prices obtained for these tobaccos are, however, not higher than the average prices of Java tobaccos in 1870, which are now not more than half what they were then.

CONSUMPTION OF TOBACCO PER CAPITA IN THE NETHERLANDS.

The following table shows for four successive five-year periods, ending December 31, 1891, the average annual consumption, both in the aggregate and per capita, of tobacco in the kingdom of the Netherlands. It is worthy of notice that the per capita consumption of tobacco in the Netherlands is considerably greater than in any other country:

Average annual consumption of tobacco.

Years.	Total quantity.	Quantity per capita.
	Pounds.	*Pounds.*
1872–1876	27,904,718	7.47
1877–1881	28,366,074	7.12
1882–1886	33,549,316	7.91
1887–1891	32,457,575	7.23

According to the estimate of F. von Juraschek, in the Uebersichten der Weltwirtschaft, the average annual consumption of tobacco per head of population in other countries for the period 1885 to 1889 was as follows:

Consumption of tobacco per capita.

Country.	Pounds.	Country.	Pounds.
Germany	3.307	Sweden	2.092
United Kingdom	1.477	Portugal	1.003
France	2.372	Norway	1.865
Italy	1.526	Roumania	1.764
Austria-Hungary	3.818	Servia	2.205
Belgium	4.740	Russia	1.246
Switzerland	4.630	Greece	3.946
Denmark	3,757	United States	4.079

CINCHONA (PERUVIAN BARK).

The cultivation of cinchona, or peruvian bark, in Java has been in a bad way for several years. The price of this product on the European markets (London and Amsterdam) has steadily fallen, so much so that the planters are raising it without profit, and they have found it necessary to restrict its production. In 1893 the price was so low that the majority of planters were unable to pay expenses. It now seems probable that plantations that work without sufficient surplus capital, or produce bark of inferior quality, or whose plants have not yet arrived at full maturity, will have to be sacrificed. Thus much capital will be lost and many people impoverished; but this catastrophe is likely to be productive of good in the end, as was the case with Sumatra tobacco some two years ago. As the depreciation of cinchona was undoubtedly caused by overproduction, and the Javan product is generally much better in quality than that of Ceylon or British India, the prospects are that cinchona culture in Java will thrive anew as soon as the supply has been reduced to the world's demand.

The overproduction of cinchona was the result of its introduction during the middle of the present century into Dutch and afterwards British India. The high prices then obtained for the drug in both colonies led to an unlimited extension of the area planted to cinchona, particularly in Ceylon.

Planters did not consider whether the demand for it in the raw state would continue to increase over the whole world in a degree corresponding with the increase in production. The result was that ever since 1880 there has been overproduction, in spite of the fact that the use of quinine as a drug has been ever increasing throughout the world. In Ceylon alone the production rose in a comparatively short time from 1,000,000 to 15,000,000 pounds a year of the raw material. Since then the planters in this island have restricted the area under cinchona, so that now the annual product does not amount to more than 5,000,000 pounds. It is probable that the cultivation of cinchona will decrease

still more and finally stop altogether, as it seems to be the object of the planters to substitute tea culture for that of cinchona. A similar reduction of area has recently taken place in British India and other cinchona-producing countries. No such reduction has been made in the Dutch East Indies, where the limitation of area under this plant in Ceylon has been the cause of further extension of cinchona plantations. The large percentage of sulphate of quinine contained in the bark obtained from these islands encouraged planters in the belief that their product would always retain a high price. The amount of cinchona imported into the Netherlands for 1893 was valued at $68,717,000.

SHIPPING AND NAVIGATION.

The principal ports of the Netherlands are as follows: Amsterdam, Delft, Dordrecht, Groningen, Haarlem, Helder, Rotterdam, Schiedam, Neuzen, Flushing, and Zaandam. The following table gives the number and tonnage (in English measurement) of vessels which entered and cleared the ports of the Netherlands for the years 1891, 1892, and 1893:

ENTERED.

Years.	With cargoes.		In ballast.		Total.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
1891	8,802	5,591,653	563	127,627	9,365	5,719,280
1892	8,729	5,732,488	638	201,919	9,367	5,934,407
1893	8,519	6,014,460	659	252,756	9,178	6,267,216

CLEARED.

1891	5,799	3,085,168	3,463	2,594,196	9,262	5,689,364
1892	6,364	3,488,851	2,925	2,422,617	9,289	5,911,468
1893	6,392	3,676,290	2,678	2,478,354	9,070	6,154,644

The total number of Dutch vessels entered in 1893 was 2,722, with a tonnage of 1,835,136, and of foreign vessels there were 6,456, with a tonnage of 4,432,080. The number of Dutch vessels cleared was 2,779, with a tonnage of 1,834,428, and of foreign vessels there were 6,291, with a tonnage of 4,320,216.

The length of internal navigable water (canals excluded) is about 3,000 miles, and the total extent of the canals is 1,907,170 miles.

COMMERCE.

The Netherlands is the only country, outside of England, where the system of free trade has found an earnest and complete application. The tariff of import duties is a purely fiscal one, and not of a protectionist character. The duties usually amount to 5 per cent of the value of the manufactured articles, and nil or only 2½ per cent if the articles are used for the industries of the country. No official returns are kept of the value of the general trade, but only the weight of the goods.

The sugar excise alone is an indirect protection of the beet-sugar industry and the sugar refineries, calculated actually at about $3,400,000. But besides this there is in the Dutch laws on public taxation no protection to agriculture nor to commerce and industry. Moreover, the abolition of all local excises, as also of the Government excises on most of the necessaries of life, has been a step in the direction of alleviating the burdens of the working classes.

It is not to be denied that the history of Dutch laws on taxation for the past thirty-five years shows a constant tendency to improve the people's food as well as to take away the impediments to free trade.

CUSTOMS TARIFF.

Import duties, conformably to the last laws modifying the same.

Articles.	Unit.	Rate of duty.
	Per—	
Potato meal, products of, not specially mentioned *a*	22.0462 pounds	$0.804.
Crockery ware: *b c*		
Porcelain and faience of all kinds, not specially mentioned. *d*		5 per cent ad val.
Pottery, common, of earth or clay; forms for confectioners, new or used.		Do.
Clay tobacco pipes		Do.
Vinegar, including pyroligneous acid: *e*		
Acetic acid, crystallized and liquid—		
Containing less than 100 grams of anhydrous acetic acid per liter.	26.417 gallons	$1.206.
Containing 100 grams of anhydrous acetic acid	do	1.407.
All other containing more acid are dutiable proportionately.		
Beer, including malt extract	do	1.206.
Spring water, mineral and gaseous:		
In bottles *f*	100 bottles	.201.
In earthen receptacles	100 receptacles	.1005.
Chocolate prepared with sugar *g*	2.20462 pounds	10.05.
Lemon and orange peels, candied		5 per cent ad val.
Alcoholic liquors, including, in addition to alcoholic liquids obtained by distillation, liqueurs, bitters, and other similar beverages; sweet-smelling waters, varnishes, and other liquids prepared with alcohol (other than beverages), containing more than 5 per cent of alcohol at a temperature of 59° F. *h*	Hectoliter (26.417 gallons) containing 50 per cent of alcohol at 59° F.	$1.407.

a All farinaceous preparations not containing more than 10 per cent of sweetening matter and intended for making puddings, etc., such as Liebig's and Viennese pudding flour, culinary flour, sago, tapioca, maizena, etc. Nevertheless articles specially used as food for infants and for invalids, such as Mexican flour, Liebig's Nahrung, and farinaceous food for infants, which do not contain more than 10 per cent of sweetening matter, are included under the head of revalenta arabica. All other farinaceous preparations containing more than 10 per cent of sweetening matter are dutiable as pastry, confectionery, and sweetmeats. (Decision of May 28, 1886.) Arrowroot is free of duty. (Decision of July 13, 1891.)

b Bricks and roofing tiles or "pannes" of baked clay are not included in crockery ware. (Decision of October 7, 1883.)

c Includes pipes of cement. (Decision of October 17, 1883.) Square tiles, dried, not baked; common square tiles of clay, neither ornamented nor varnished, as well as common bricks for floors or sidewalks, are exempt from duty. (Decisions of June 20, 1885, October 21, 1886, and July 24, 1890.)

d Small articles of pottery or faience, such as chimney ornaments, inkstands, ash trays, and the like, imported together with other similar articles, are considered as small wares.

e Pyrolignic iron and pyrolignic alumina exclusively intended for manufacturing purposes, vinegar and pyroligneous acid destined for the manufacture of such products, as well as acetate of soda and of calcium (unfit for the manufacture of table vinegar), may be imported free of duty under customs control. Vinegar and pyroligneous acid intended to be employed in glassworks, tanneries, and for wool dyeing are admitted free of duty. (Decisions of September 8, 1885, and April 18, 1888.)

f When imported in bottles of 7.4 quarts and more, the duty is 4 cents per bottle.

g Cocoa in powder, mixed with sugar or other substances, is included in this number. (Decision of September 4, 1891.)

h The quantity of distilled liquids is calculated after reduction to the strength of 50 per cent of alcohol, conformably to the law on excise duties. The excise duty is levied in addition to the import duty. (See table of excise duties.) Chloral hydrate, sulphuric ether, chloroform, acetic ether, collodion, sweet spirits of niter, and all other similar products manufactured or mixed with alcohol, are dutiable separately. (See said products.) Alcoholic liquors of foreign distillation, reexported after having been improved in a distillery of the Kingdom, are free of import duties, provided bond be given for their reexportation.

Import duties, conformably to the last laws modifying the same—Continued.

Articles.	Unit.	Rate of duty.
	Per—	
Pyroligneous spirit and all liquids manufactured therefrom or with which it has been mixed.	1.0567 quarts	.4623.
Ginger, candied	220.462 pounds	2.412.
Caoutchouc (*a*), shoes and other manufactures of		5 per cent ad val.
Gutta-percha, articles of		Do.
Honey	220.462 pounds	$1.005.
Hides, skins, and leather (*see* Articles free of duty):		
Furs and peltries, skins prepared with the wool		5 per cent ad val.
Saddlers', shoemakers,' and trunkmakers' wares, and all other articles of leather not specially classed.		Do.
Candles, tallow	220.462 pounds	$1.206.
Wax, spermaceti, or composite		5 per cent ad val.
Cheese of all kinds, not including the cheese known as "pie," imported by land.	220.462 pounds	$2.01.
Pastry, confectionery, and sweetmeats, including all comestibles, such as meat, fish, game, poultry, vegetables, and fruits preserved in hermetically sealed tins, etc.; mushrooms, morels, racahout, table mustard, and sauces. *b c*	do	10.05.
Currants	do	.603.
Lemon and citron juice	26.417 gallons	1.206.
Macaroni	220.462 pounds	.804.
Mead	26.417 gallons	1.206.
Pepper, ground or not	220.462 pounds	.603.
Pimento and ground cloves	do	.402.
Prunes, dried	do	.603.
Revalenta arabica	do	.1608.
Raisins, dried, not specially classed *d*	do	.402.
Raisins, black, of Samos or Denia	do	.1005.
Spices, nutmegs, and flowers thereof; cloves, mace, saffron, vanilla, cinnamon, and other spices. *e*		5 per cent ad val.
Sirup for cooking purposes and all other kinds, molasses, or other saccharine juices not containing more than 10 per cent of solid matter, consisting principally of crystallizable sugar or not possessing in their liquid state a saccharine richness exceeding 50 per cent. *f*	220.462 pounds	$2.412.
Cedrat, candied	220.462 pounds	1.206.
Tobacco, in rolls, leaves, and unflattened stems	do	.2814.
In flattened stems	do	.603.
Cut, in carrots, snuff, and otherwise manufactured	do	4.824.
Cigars	do	16.08.

a Transmission belts of caoutchouc, leather, or cotton, are free of import duty. (Decision of August 20, 1883.) Pipes of india rubber forming part of industrial or agricultural machines, and of fire engines, may be imported free of duty. (Decision of July 11, 1883.) Life-saving apparatus of caoutchouc or gutta-percha must pay according to the component material. (Decision of August 1, 1891.)

b In virtue of article 5 of the law of August 29, 1886 (Staatsblad, No. 142), the import duty on biscuits known as English biscuits has been established by royal decree of November 20, 1886 (Staatsblad, No. 180), at $2.211 per 220.462 pounds, if the sugar therein contained does not exceed 20 per cent, and at $5.427 if the same exceeds 20 per cent. Biscuits outwardly ornamented with sugar, fruits, or other condiments, or which are prepared with liqueurs, fruit sirup, or essence of fruits, vanilla or other aromatic ingredients are subject to the duty stipulated in the tariff schedule.

c Including condensed milk in tins or bottles. (Decision of November 13, 1882.) Anchovies, codfish, salmon, in jars, small kegs, boxes, etc., and other fish preserved in oil, vinegar, or otherwise prepared, pay as pastry, etc. (Decision of February 25, 1887.) It is to be noted that the packing of comestibles in hermetically sealed tins or bottles does not suffice for the application of the duty of $10.05 per 220.462 pounds; the said comestibles must be prepared and preserved in order to be included in No. 37. In case of doubt, application may be made to the minister of finance, and, pending the decision of the minister, the goods may be delivered provided bond equal to the highest duty be given. (Article 2 of the customs law.) Mustard prepared with vinegar, but not with capers, etc., pays as vinegar. (Decision of October 4, 1886, No. 9.)

d Law of March 19, 1888 (*see* Currants). (Staatsblad, No. 50.)

e Vanilin is classed in this number. Saccharin, also known as benzoic sulphinide, and methysaccharin pay an import duty of 5 per cent ad valorem. (Decisions of September 17, 1888, and December 18, 1889.)

f Molasses and other saccharine juices must, in order that they may be admitted at the above-mentioned duty, be declared on importation at one of the offices or places of discharge specially designated for the clearance of raw sugar. If imported in any other manner they shall be assimilated to melado and taxed as sugar conformably to the law on excise duties. Molasses and other saccharine juices destined for the manufacture of spirits in the country may be imported free of duty under the control of the administration. Glucose, known as masse, as well as caramel sugar, are also dutiable as sirups. (Article 17 of the law of July 20, 1884; Staatsblad, No. 147.) Licorice juice containing more than 10 per cent and not more than 30 per cent of saccharine richness, per 220.462 pounds, $2.412; containing more than 30 per cent and not more than 50 per cent of saccharine richness, per 220.462 pounds, $4.824; containing more than 50 per cent of saccharine richness, $10.05. The saccharine richness shall be proved by chemical analysis, and the declarer must state in his declaration the above-mentioned proportions; he has, however, the right to have these proportions established at his expense by the customs. The minister of finance will prescribe the manner in which this chemical analysis is to be effected. (Decision of April 27, 1891.) Colors prepared with sugar pay as sirup, i. e., $2.412 per 220.462 pounds, when the declaration is made in one of the offices or places of discharge specially designated for the clearance of raw sugar, and a duty of $7.236 per 220.462 pounds when the declaration is made elsewhere. Inulin sirup is dutiable as sirup. (Decisions of October 28, 1884, and April 2, 1885.)

Import duties, conformably to the last laws modifying the same—Continued.

Articles.	Unit.	Rate of duty.
	Per—	
Tea *a*	220.462 pounds	10.05.
Vermicelli	do	.804.
Figs	do	.402.
Meat: *b*		
Of all kinds not specially classified, and sausages—		
Fresh and salted	do	2.412.
Smoked or dried	do	3.216.
Mutton, pork, and bacon: *c*		
Salted	do	.402.
Smoked or dried	do	.5025.
Preserved in hermetically closed tin boxes (*see* Pastry, etc.). *d*	do	10.05.
Meat, game (*see* Pastry, etc.)		5 per cent ad val.
Fruits, all fresh or dried tree fruits not specially classed *e*		Do.
Salted or preserved in spirits, vinegar, or brine		10 per cent ad val.
Candied with sirup or sugar	220.462 pounds	$7.236.
Preserved in hermetically closed tin boxes	do	10.05.
Game and poultry, as well as venison		5 per cent ad val.

a A tare allowance of 18 per cent on the common cases of tea weighing 128 pounds or more, and of 25 per cent for common cases weighing less than 128 pounds is allowed.

b Fresh mutton and pork are not included in this number.

c By dried bacon is understood that which generally comes from America and which is air dried. (Decision of December 15, 1895.) By royal decree of August 14, 1888, Staatsblad, No. 21, the importation and transit of hogs, of fresh or dried pork, of unmelted lard, nails, manure, and other residues of the hog is prohibited. For special reasons the minister of the interior, in concurrence with the minister of finance, is authorized to grant permission to import the above-mentioned articles provided that certain hygienic measures be taken. The above prohibition is, however, not applicable to hogs (not exceeding two) and to meat (6.6 pounds or less per person) conveyed on board of vessels or punts entering the Netherlands and destined to be consumed on board, on condition that such hogs or meat be not discharged; nor to meat (6.6 pounds or less per person) which travelers carry with them for personal consumption; nor to salted meat afterwards dried, except for sausages, for which an official declaration is necessary proving that no reason exists for them to be considered injurious; nor to boiled or roasted meat. (Decisions of October 27 and 30, 1888.) Pork bristles worked for brushmakers are not included in this prohibition.

d For tins weighing 4 pounds and over the duty is $2.412 for 220.462 pounds.

e Tomato sauce, without seeds, cooked with a small quantity of salt, in whatever receptacles, as well as whole or cut-up tomatoes in water, but not preserved, are dutiable at 5 per cent ad valorem. (Decision of August 15, 1890.)

Excise duties levied in the Netherlands on foreign goods.

Alcoholic liquids.—This heading includes, in addition to liquids not mixed with alcohol obtained by distillation:

Liqueurs, bitters, and other similar distilled beverages. The excise duty is $24.12 per 26.417 gallons containing 50 per cent of pure alcohol at a temperature of 59° F. Excise duty on liquids of greater or inferior strength is calculated according to the proportion of alcohol they contain. (Articles 1 and 2 of the law of June 20, 1862, Staatsblad, No. 62; article 1 of the law of May 1, 1863, Staatsblad, No. 47; article 1 of the law of April 6, 1877, Staatsblad, No. 70; article 1 of the law of July 20, 1884, Staatsblad, No. 148; law of December 31, 1885, Staatsblad, No. 262, and article 1 of the law of December 23, 1886, Staatsblad, No. 223.)

Sweetened liqueurs of foreign origin are considered as containing 75 per cent of alcohol. This will apply also to all spirituous beverages distilled or prepared with distilled liquids imported in bottles or jars of a capacity less than 2 quarts. Should the employees, however, ascertain the alcoholic strength to be superior, the excise duty will be calculated according to the real strength.

Wine.—Under this heading are included all fermented beverages, with or without dregs, prepared wholly or in part of the juice or extract of fresh or dried grapes, of currants, and of other fresh or dried fruits. Liquid dregs are considered as wine. Unfermented extracts or juice of fruits which can be used for manufacturing, blending, or diluting wine are also considered as wine.

The excise duty is $8.040 per 26.412 gallons. When the wine contains more than 21 per cent of alcohol at a temperature of 59° F., the excise duty on alcoholic liquids must, in addition, be levied on the surplus alcohol. (Articles 1 and 2 of the law of July 20, 1870, Staatsblad, No. 127, and the law of May 8, 1875, Staatsblad, No. 72.)

Sugar.—The excise duty on sugar, in loaves, dry and white, is $10.854 per 220.462 pounds; raw sugar is taxed according to its saccharine richness, i. e., according to the percentage of polarization after deducting double the percentage of glucose contained therein and quadruple the amount of ashes remaining after combustion and after all insoluble matters have been discarded. Fractions of 1 per cent will be ignored. This last disposition is not applicable to raw sugar of a richness of more than 99 per cent.

The richness of sugar known as bastard is calculated simply according to the percentage of polarization. For other kinds, the excise duty per 220.462 pounds, is fixed as follows:

Refined sugar and similar kinds:

a. Candy, first class	$12.80772
Candy, second class	11.61378
b. Melis, lump, and other refined sugar not specially classed	10.854
c. Raw sugar of a richness exceeding 99 per cent	10.854
d. Raw sugar not exceeding 99 per cent in richness, per each per cent of richness	.10854
e. Bastard, according to the richness, per each per cent of richness	.10854
f. Melado, including all saccharine juices; sirups and molasses containing more than 10 per cent of solid sugar crystallizable, or having, when liquid, a saccharine richness exceeding 50 per cent	7.34454
g. Glucose, solid, granular, and sugar in powder obtained from feculæ, with the exception of the solid sugar known as massé	7.34454

Owing to the difference between the saccharine richness and the practical yield for the raw sugar mentioned in *d*, a reduction of 1½ per cent will be allowed. This reduction will also be granted to manufacturers of beet sugar. Decimal fractions shall be carried out to tenths; hundredths less than five shall be dropped; if more than five, the number of tenths is to be increased by 1.

For cane sugar the reduction will be 2½ per cent.

Raw and bastard sugar on importation from abroad, on withdrawal from a bonded warehouse, as well as on leaving a native factory coming under the stipulation of article 1 of the law of July 7, 1867, is, for calculating the excise duty thereon, considered to be of a saccharine richness of at least 65 per cent; the reductions stipulated in article 3, for raw sugar, will, however, be allowed.

If on the examination of the sugar it is ascertained that it is mixed with foreign substances in order to render impossible the examination of the percentage, such sugar shall be dutiable at 100 per cent ad valorem. The interested party has, however, the privilege of appealing to the commission of chemists, whose decision will be final.

The stipulation of the last two paragraphs are not applicable when relating to the drawback of excise duties allowed on exportation, or when relating to warehoused sugar.

Excise duty shall be levied on raw or bastard sugars imported in other places of discharge, or in offices other than those specially indicated, as if such sugars were loaf sugars, dry and white.

METHOD OF VALUATION OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

In the Netherlands the statistics of imports and exports sometimes give the official value of goods. For goods liable to an ad valorem import duty and for some articles duty free, the importer has to declare the real value according to the current prices of the day; in case of disagreement, the fiscal authorities may acquire the goods at the declared value increased by 10, 11, or 12 per cent. To other goods the

official values, unchanged since 1862, are applied. Every declaration of imports and of exports is, in principle, subject to verification, but in fact only those relating to goods subject to duty are checked. Returns are made out in gross weight, in net weight (with deduction of an official tare), in number or in value, according to the nature of each case. When goods are imported or exported by river, the neighboring country is always regarded as the country of origin or of destination; thus imports from France are attributed to Belgium. When transport is by sea, generally the real country of origin is given; thus Spanish wines are set down as from Spain, unless they have been imported first into some other country, in which case they are attributed to that country.

MERCANTILE CREDIT AND TRADE SYSTEMS.

Credit is considered to stimulate trade in the country, but in trade it is held that credit must be judiciously extended when it is asked, and before it is given the applicant must be shown to have a good moral character and the necessary qualifications to carry out the business or enterprise in which credit is desired; in many cases it must be shown that the party is financially responsible. Importers of colonial products sell almost invariably for cash. Wholesale merchants and speculators in foreign and domestic products and in home and foreign manufactures sell freely on a credit of from three to three and a half months, with or without promissory notes. In case "notes" are given and accepted the seller loses his right to reclaim the goods if still in possession of any buyer who within thirty days thereafter should stop payment or fail, a right which otherwise he would have. Bourse transactions, dealing in securities of every description, are always carried on the exchanges of Amsterdam and Rotterdam upon the cash principle. The great bulk of the import trade, particularly of colonial products, as well as most all other large transactions, are carried on upon the principle of "letter credit," which effectually prevents heavy losses being sustained on account of misplaced confidence in dishonest buyers or unfortunate traders. Financial and commercial institutions, firms, and merchants, having once acquired and enjoying a reputation for solidity and morality, which may be said to be the case with the great majority doing business in the country, are very rarely known to fail or become bankrupt.

Failures are of frequent occurrence in all branches of the retail trade. The amounts of liabilities involved and the losses entailed are, in the aggregate, comparatively insignificant. Farm products, sugar, coffee, spices, madder, oils and petroleum, etc., command cash returns. Transactions on speculation for the future delivery of any such article always involve cash payments at time of its delivery. Operations of this description, while they are not carried on here very extensively, are by no means uncommon, and in the article of rye, so much used in the manufacture of gin, they are often quite extensive. The practice for-

merly was that all breadstuffs generally commanded cash returns, but this has changed during recent years, and dealings are now usually on a credit of from two to three months. No manufactured goods of any kind command absolute cash returns or payment on delivery. The entire business is done on an agreed credit basis, the time varying from thirty days to three and a half months.

Circumspection and prudence characterize the business operations of the Dutch merchants and men of affairs, as a rule. Hazardous enterprises of any kind are seldom undertaken; great and risky speculations in articles of commerce are but very rarely ventured upon, and thus it is explained why fortunes once acquired are not often or readily lost again.

The system of credit as now established in the country is well suited to the country's condition, wants, and necessities; it operates rather beneficially than otherwise, and as a generality is fairly satisfactory to the thrifty and energetic character of its people.

METHOD ON THE ROTTERDAM BOURSE.

No cash payment is required either at or before delivery of goods. A fortnight's prompt is usually allowed before the goods have to be taken delivery of, and then payment is effected either by cash under a discount of 1 per cent or by a three and a half months' promissory note, dating from the date of the sale, in the seller's option. No deposit is ever required on purchasing, nor is rate of interest allowed for prepayment before prompt. Beyond the discount of 1 per cent for cash, no allowances are made off the nominal price in the cases of coffee, pepper, cocoa, or indigo.

The conditions of sale of sugar are as follows:

Java sugars.—One per cent is first added to gross amount of invoice for so-called public sale charges, and then 1½ per cent is deducted for cash.

Surinam sugars.—One and one-third per cent discount for cash.

Beet sugars.—No discount whatever.

FOREIGN TRADE.

According to the statement for 1893, which appeared at the end of 1894, concerning the foreign trade of the Netherlands, the exports and imports in 1893 amounted to $1,015,000,000, of which amount $566,000,000 (55 per cent) were imports and $449,000,000 (45 per cent) exports. If the $145,000,000 belonging to the transit trade be added to the above figures there would be a total international traffic of $1,160,000,000, which gives the Netherlands the fifth place among commercial nations, i. e., after Great Britain, Germany, the United States, and France.

Compared with the results of preceding years the exports and imports, as well as the transit trade, show an increase not even nearly approached by the commerce of any other country. This increase in the last fifteen years amounted to 72 per cent for the imports, 87 per cent for the exports, and for the transit trade 160 per cent.

Compared with the preceding year (1892), the imports have risen about 9¾ per cent, the transit trade about 9 per cent, while the export trade has decreased about 1½ per cent.

There has been an increase in the importation of the following articles: Cereals, flour, peruvian bark, margarin, coffee, coal, copper, steel, saltpeter, hides, pitch, hemp, and woolen yarn; the importation of raw sugar, meat, tallow, drugs, wool, cotton yarn, iron, and iron ware has decreased.

The exportation of the following articles shows an increase as compared with 1892: Cereals and flour, animals for slaughter, coal, saltpeter, copper, pitch, drugs, hemp, woolen yarn, manufactures, paper, and agricultural and industrial implements; while the exports of sugar, indigo, margarin, hides, wood, cotton goods, and iron have decreased.

The general commerce of the Netherlands, that is, the total quantity of merchandise imported into and exported from the country, without regard to the destination of imports or the nature of exports, is stated in weight, the values of the goods coming under this head not being available.

The subjoined table shows for the five-year period ending December 31, 1893, the summary of the general commerce of the Netherlands in thousands of pounds:

Total trade (general commerce).

Years.	Total imports.	Total exports.	Reexports.	Transit.
	1,000 lbs.	*1,000 lbs.*	*1,000 lbs.*	*1,000 lbs.*
1889	30, 532, 741	16, 791, 797	935, 348	4, 472, 175
1890	32, 214, 924	18, 294, 655	1, 032, 291	5, 259, 670
1891	35, 002, 306	18, 998, 070	1, 146, 588	5, 853, 345
1892	34, 636, 029	19, 860, 917	1, 377, 912	5, 980, 971
1893	36, 107, 546	21, 162, 251	1, 536, 406	5, 841, 500

The value of the imports for consumption and the exports of domestic or nationalized merchandise, as well as the total value of the special commerce of the Netherlands for the five years ending December 31, 1893, is presented in the following table:

Total trade (special commerce).[1]

Years.	Imports.	Exports.	Total trade.
1889	$500, 605, 511	$439, 819, 581	$940, 425, 092
1890	522, 499, 692	437, 187, 826	959, 687, 518
1891	545, 135, 563	458, 470, 187	1, 003, 605, 750
1892	516, 246, 353	455, 840, 371	972, 086, 724
1893	566, 306, 949	488, 880, 409	1, 015, 187, 358
Average 1889–1893	530, 158, 813	448, 039, 675	978, 198, 488

[1] Special commerce comprises those articles which are imported for consumption, and as to exports of home produce and articles that have been nationalized by being admitted as imports for consumption.

The following table shows the relative rank which each country holds in the commerce of the Netherlands as regards imports for consumption and the exports of special commerce:

Rank.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Country.	Value.	Country.	Value.
1	Great Britain	$106,063,672	Prussia	$214,732,054
2	Prussia	104,041,452	Great Britain	103,014,988
3	Java and other Dutch East Indies.	77,584,808	Belgium	67,513,523
4	Belgium	70,603,636	Java and other Dutch East Indies.	22,971,412
5	United States	62,333,542	United States	8,745,611
6	Russia	35,710,091	Hamburg	6,238,449
7	British India	21,480,111	France	4,011,398
8	Roumania	18,339,733	Africa (east coast)	3,933,487
9	Spain	10,182,584	Italy	2,421,584
10	France	8,064,419	Russia	2,360,629
11	Hamburg	7,037,051	Norway	2,227,412
12	Bolivia and Peru	6,399,145	Denmark	1,796,263
13	Sweden	4,569,509	Turkey	1,490,986
14	Turkey	4,205,466	Dutch Guiana	1,272,085
15	Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay.	3,357,397	Sweden	1,263,852
16	Brazil	3,136,400	Africa (west coast)	953,084
17	Norway	2,773,154	Spain	679,827
18	Africa (west coast)	2,725,937	Portugal	553,944
19	Italy	2,588,578	Australia	533,292
20	Greece	2,178,924	Bremen	477,280
	Other countries	12,931,340	Other countries	1,289,249
	Total	566,306,949	Total	448,480,409

IMPORTS.

The imports for 1893, as shown above, represented a value of $566,000,000. The principal articles were as follows:

Cereals.—Russia's share in the importation of cereals has not been so prominent as in former years. As regards wheat, it should be stated that out of a total of $35,000,000 worth only $4,000,000 came from that country. The United States supplied $14,300,000 worth and Roumania $7,000,000. Rye: Total imports, $10,350,000; Russia, at the head, supplied $3,800,000; then follows Roumania, with $2,600,000. Barley: Total imports, $10,000,000; Russia supplied more than one-half of the import, viz, $5,500,000; the remainder was divided among other countries. Oats, $5,400,000, and maize, $8,200,000, of which Roumania, with $2,300,000 and $4,400,000, respectively, supplied the largest quantity. Smaller quantities were supplied by Belgium and the United States. The latter supplied $9,200,000 worth of wheat flour out of a total of $13,100,000. The rest came from Prussia and Belgium. Rye flour, $3,600,000, came principally from Prussia. Rice, $18,500,000; the largest portion, $11,700,000, came from British India. The import from Java was small in proportion. The total importation of cereals is figured at $109,100,000. Among seeds, flaxseed takes the first place. Out of $10,900,000 worth, almost half came from British India; the United States supplied $1,800,000 and Russia $2,400,000 worth.

Drugs.—Peruvian bark comes first with an import value of $68,700,000. This came principally from the Dutch Indies, viz, $58,100,000; the rest came from British India.

Meats.—The imports reached the value of $800,000, half of which came from Belgium.

Textiles.—Cotton, raw, $1,800,000 worth came from Great Britain; $1,600,000 from the United States; $1,400,000 from Prussia. Cotton yarn, almost the entire import, viz, $10,300,000 worth, came from Great Britain. Of cotton goods the largest part, $2,300,000, came from Great Britain; the rest, $1,000,000, from Prussia. Of raw wool, also, the largest portion was obtained from Great Britain, $10,100,000; the same may be said of woolen yarns, of which $5,200,000 worth was imported. Great Britain is almost the only source of supply. Flax, $1,600,000, came from Belgium. The total imports of materials relating to the textile industry, including both raw materials and manufactures, amounted to $48,200,000, of which $17,700,000 was raw material; $21,700,000 yarn, and $8,800,000 tissues.

Colonial wares.—Coffee, $14,100,000, came principally from Java and from Brazil. Sugar, $14,100,000; $7,800,000 from Belgium, $3,000,000 from Prussia, and $2,200,000 from Hamburg. Tobacco, $7,800,000, from Java and the United States. Petroleum, $3,600,000, principally from the United States.

Coal.—The total imports, nearly $17,900,000, came from Prussia.

Metals and metallic wares.—Principally from Great Britain, Prussia, and Belgium. The United States and Spain supplied quantities of copper; tin was obtained from the Dutch East India possessions. The import value of iron and iron ware was $33,000,000; copper and copper ware, $20,500,000; steel and steel ware, $18,100,000; tin and tin ware, $6,200,000.

Wood.—Wood for shipbuilding and lumber was imported from Sweden, Norway, Prussia, and Russia. The total import amounted to $14,100,000.

The importation of the eleven following articles amounted in value to one-half of the entire import trade: Wheat, $34,600,000; rice, $18,500,000; peruvian bark, $68,700,000; cotton, $20,700,000; coffee, $14,100,000; sugar, $14,100,000; coal, $17,900,000; iron and iron ware, $33,000,000; copper and copper ware, $20,500,000; steel and steel ware, $18,100,000; wood, $14,100,000; total, $274,300,000.

EXPORTS.

As above stated, the export trade for 1893 amounted to $449,000,000. The principal articles were as follows:

Cereals.—The export in cereals was directed almost entirely toward Prussia. Wheat, $24,100,000; rye, $4,500,000; barley, $5,600,000; maize, $4,000,000; oats, $4,900,000—all went to Prussia. Rice, $5,000,000, chiefly to Belgium, Great Britain, and Prussia. Prussia also took most of the wheat flour, $1,900,000, and the rye flour, $2,000,000. The total export in cereals was $58,700,000.

Butter.—$5,200,000. The export of butter has fallen off during the last few years. Great Britain took the largest part, nearly three-quarters, and Belgium the rest.

Cheese.—$4,200,000. The chief consumers were Great Britain and Belgium.

Animals for slaughter.—$4,400,000. Belgium received the largest share; then followed Prussia.

Fish.—$2,600,000; mostly went to Prussia.

Drugs.—Among drugs and dyes, peruvian bark took the first place, $54,300,000; over $40,200,000 worth went to Prussia, the rest to Great Britain; indigo, $2,300,000, also went chiefly to Prussia.

Seeds.—Prussia took nearly all the cabbage and rape seed, $1,100,000, and linseed, $2,500,000.

Colonial wares.—The export of coffee amounted to $8,000,000; sugar, $18,100,000; tobacco, $1,700,000. Prussia took most of the coffee, and Great Britain received almost all the sugar.

Textile materials.—Raw cotton, $3,700,000, and cotton yarn, $4,200,000, went mostly to Prussia. Cotton goods, $14,500,000, went to Java. Raw wool, $11,600,000, went mostly to Belgium, while Prussia got nearly all the woolen yarn, $5,000,000. The export in hemp, $1,900,000, was divided between Belgium and Prussia.

Metals and metal wares.—Raw iron, $6,800,000, Prussia $4,600,000 and Belgium $1,300,000; iron wares, $16,600,000, Great Britain $8,000,000, Dutch East Indies $2,500,000, and Prussia $1,800,000; raw copper, $16,100,000, Prussia $15,900,000; copper wares, $1,900,000, Belgium $1,000,000 and Prussia $500,000; steel and steel wares, $8,000,000, Great Britain $3,200,000, East Coast of Africa $2,000,000, and Prussia $1,200,000; tin, $4,900,000, Prussia $3,300,000 and Belgium $500,000; crude lead, $200,000, Belgium; leaden wares, $500,000, Great Britain $300,000 and Prussia $100,000.

The exports of the following seven articles constituted two-fifths of the whole export trade: Wheat, $24,100,000; peruvian bark, $54,300,000; sugar, $18,100,000; cotton and its manufactures, $22,400,000; wool and its manufactures, $16,600,000; iron and iron wares, $23,400,000; copper and copper wares, $18,000,000; total, $176,900,000.

The following two tables, compiled from the official commercial statistics of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, show the share of the United States (both in value and in percentages) in the total special commerce of the Netherlands for the five-year period 1889–1893:

Share of the United States in the total imports and exports of the Netherlands.[1]

A.—IMPORTS (SPECIAL COMMERCE).

Year.	Total imports.	Imports from the United States.	
		Value.	Per cent of total.
1889	$500, 605, 511	$30, 571, 180	6. 1
1890	522, 499, 692	39, 573, 402	7. 6
1891	545, 135, 563	37, 198, 722	6. 8
1892	516, 246, 353	59, 864, 008	11. 6
1893	566, 306, 949	62, 333, 542	11. 0
Annual average for five years	530, 158, 813	45, 908, 171	8. 7

[1] Official statistics for 1894 are not yet available.

B.—EXPORTS (SPECIAL COMMERCE).

Year.	Total exports.	Exports for the United States.	
		Value.	Per cent of total.
1889	$439, 819, 581	$8, 909, 097	2
1890	437, 187, 826	9, 530, 239	2. 2
1891	458, 470, 187	8, 316, 166	1. 8
1892	455, 840, 371	9, 358, 903	2. 1
1893	448, 880, 409	8, 745, 611	1. 9
Annual average for five years	448, 039, 675	8, 972, 003	2

The share of the Netherlands in the import and export trade of the United States (both in values and percentages) for the year ending June 30, 1894, as compared with a five-year average, is presented in the two tables appended, the figures in which were obtained from the statements of the United States Treasury Department:

Share of the Netherlands in the total commerce of the United States.

A.—EXPORTS.

	Total exports from the United States.	Exports to Netherlands.	
		Value.	Per cent of total.
Year ending June 30, 1894	$892, 140, 572	$43, 570, 312	4. 88
Annual average for five-year period ending June 30, 1894	902, 478, 682	34, 553, 052	3. 83

B.—IMPORTS.

	Total imports into the United States.	Imports from Netherlands.	
		Value.	Per cent of total.
Year ending June 30, 1894	$654, 994, 622	$10, 690, 979	1. 63
Annual average for five-year period ending June 30, 1894	796, 604, 922	13, 695, 627	1. 72

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF TRADE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE NETHERLANDS.

The principal articles of export from the Netherlands to the United States for the calendar year 1893, in the order of their value, were peruvian bark, sugar, hair, coffee, and iron. The total value of merchandise shipped to the United States during that year was estimated in the commercial statistics of the Netherlands at $8,745,611. The same source gives the value of imports into the Netherlands from the United States for 1893 at $62,333,542, the six principal items being wheat, wheat flour, copper, margarin, petroleum, and maize. Two tabular statements are appended to show the value of twenty articles of merchandise that occupy the highest rank in the list of the import and export trade of the Netherlands and the United States.

Imports and exports of articles between the United States and the Netherlands for 1893, in the order of their total value.

Order.	Imports from the United States into the Netherlands.		Exports from the Netherlands to the United States.	
	Articles.	Value.	Articles.	Value.
1	Wheat	$14,236,084	Peruvian bark	$3,565,354
2	Wheat flour	9,181,226	Hair, raw	471,618
3	Copper	7,338,145	Sugar, raw	449,894
4	Margarin	6,980,885	Sugar, refined	360,543
5	Petroleum	3,337,816	Coffee	337,362
6	Maize	2,707,472	Iron, pig	297,204
7	Linseed	1,712,768	Tin, raw	237,190
8	Cotton, raw	1,553,326	Dyestuffs, raw	237,146
9	Lard	1,542,542	Trees, plants, bulbs, etc	214,531
10	Turpentine	1,196,391	Rags	213,685
11	Oil cake	1,187,090	Wire, iron	205,887
12	Gold, coin	1,004,799	Drugs, not elsewhere specified	166,888
13	Cotton-seed oil	915,334	Cheese	153,764
14	Tobacco, leaf and stem	865,323	Chemicals	117,185
15	Oats	817,128	Stone, ground or broken, and cement.	104,158
16	Sausage casings	772,271	Vegetables, preserved	104,044
17	Hemp seed	717,215	Cacao	100,242
18	Resin	683,824	India rubber, vulcanized	98,457
19	Timber, unsawed	535,171	Wheat	97,569
20	Timber, sawed	530,833	Hides and skins, dried	95,711

The following tables, showing the sources from which the Dutch people have supplied their demand during the years 1891, 1892, and 1893, have been compiled from the official tables published by the department of finances of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. It must be understood that Holland is to some degree a way station for the transit of goods to continental Europe, and that a part of the merchandise given in these tables as imported for consumption is later on sent across the frontier and thus appears again in the statement of the special export trade:

Imports of agricultural and other products entered for home consumption into the Netherlands, by countries, for the three calendar years 1891, 1892, and 1893.

WHEAT.

[Quantities in kilograms of 2.20462 pounds each.]

Country.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Belgium	119,494,458	85,703,663	58,827,173
Brazil	1,944,182	.....	.....
Canada	505,470	13,350,636	5,982,106
British India	29,993,687	32,374,195	9,346,980
Great Britain	7,070,618	5,468,180	924,621
Hamburg	6,640,271	5,372,459	538,053
Mecklenburg	.....	2,325,000	4,853,000
Prussia	31,642,674	24,229,358	32,200,069
Rio de la Plata (Buenos Ayres, etc.)	5,541,500	7,930,913	58,072,142
Roumania	73,400,080	121,810,284	134,530,282
Russia	351,634,058	59,391,255	78,204,273
Turkey	12,240,710	8,366,400	5,699,107
United States	101,428,692	293,761,509	272,408,802
Other countries	2,356,275	150,100	100,000
Total	743,892,675	660,233,952	661,686,608
Total value	$38,875,800	$34,503,800	$34,579,800

RYE.

Belgium	28,025,898	19,055,662	25,239,298
Canada	18,608,500	2,858,007	.....
France	2,001,554	792,435	.....
Great Britain	1,271,493	147,767	.....
Hamburg	1,111,347	8,148,345	1,802,460
Mecklenburg	.....	5,909,800	8,036,300
Prussia	2,440,034	25,392,628	53,796,795
Roumania	50,231,214	47,438,627	70,450,621
Russia	321,495,970	28,498,125	105,086,609
Turkey	15,990,309	16,960,926	22,019,303
United States	24,184,280	35,181,451	1,133,388
Other countries	1,559,250	2,176,310	21,360
Total	466,919,849	192,560,083	287,585,534
Total value	$16,893,200	$6,966,800	$10,404,800

BARLEY.

Belgium	12,524,402	6,151,893	8,576,831
Denmark	2,066,387	.....	100
Canada	701,750	219,000	.....
France	5,602,821	1,996,923	.....
Greece	.....	.....	1,810,062
Great Britain	828,670	900,135	603,009
Hamburg	2,139,712	568,198	1,591,172
Austria-Hungary	10,890,274	9,554,544	14,595,020
Prussia	11,244,769	15,255,587	23,840,257
Roumania	52,424,863	32,664,722	55,143,988
Russia	116,973,057	104,672,790	183,617,672
Turkey	4,943,542	12,939,980	20,734,750
United States	.....	1,273,163	827,951
Other countries	1,137,485	3,010,105	547,187
Total	221,477,732	189,207,040	311,887,999
Total value	$7,122,700	$6,084,900	$10,030,300

MAIZE (INDIAN CORN).

Belgium	43,638,389	41,147,316	25,653,718
Canada	1,762,550	1,134,135	7,294,190
Great Britain	498,010	.....	41,635
Rio de la Plata (Buenos Ayres, etc.)	2,378,300	10,142,930	.....
Roumania	42,915,656	38,482,872	168,125,755
Russia	18,698,794	12,244,409	7,636,488
Turkey	1,280,000	600,000	4,485,432
United States	44,115,515	174,452,846	103,615,458
Other countries	1,591,111	15,769	43,078
Total	156,878,325	278,220,277	316,895,754
Total value	$4,099,200	$7,269,900	$8,280,500

Imports of agricultural and other products entered for home consumption into the Netherlands, etc.—Continued.

OATS.

[Quantities in kilograms of 2.20462 pounds each.]

Country.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Belgium	6,243,078	7,842,938	2,788,328
Canada	321,700	410,735	3,523,520
Prussia	12,326,801	7,787,249	21,052,310
Roumania	1,570,169	7,977,976	70,646,324
Russia	78,233,780	5,716,640	31,647,897
Turkey	.....	3,190,140	11,900,482
United States	301,200	623,050	25,408,216
Other countries	579,204	376,320	1,153,139
Total	99,575,932	33,925,048	168,120,216
Total value	$3,202,400	$1,091,000	$5,406,700

BUCKWHEAT.

Belgium	918,367	1,684,698	567,200
Canada	2,725,280	2,855,239	1,687,300
France	21,131,977	2,369,372	320,400
Hamburg	.....	.....	939,087
Russia	5,778,238	2,272,000	3,330,832
United States	1,201,725	18,017,331	6,137,756
Other countries	1,047,951	213,448	250,762
Total	32,803,538	27,412,088	13,233,337
Total value	$1,450,600	$1,212,200	$585,200

RICE, SHELLED, AND PADDY.

Belgium	6,992,239	2,677,869	2,744,333
Bremen	1,192,627	781,647	1,153,730
China	.....	5,737,575	.....
Cochin China	.....	3,623,850	7,963,225
British India	76,281,883	81,735,073	96,078,866
British Straits Settlements	14,683,405	12,072,800	11,667,329
Great Britain	4,136,346	1,866,580	257,142
Hamburg	1,800,525	1,017,695	772,223
Japan	8,937,320	5,157,050	12,576,000
Dutch East Indies	20,041,272	10,760,130	20,746,410
Prussia	1,497,282	202,897	46,938
United States	.....	.....	59,000
Other countries	27,300	28,450	68,915
Total	135,590,199	125,661,616	154,134,111
Total value	$16,352,200	$15,154,800	$18,588,600

WHEAT FLOUR.

Belgium	18,702,809	18,401,312	14,102,553
Canada	178,000	314,096	622,207
France	170,000	198	225
Great Britain	223,886	821,814	105,420
Hamburg	5,993,199	2,992,252	1,424,526
Italy	236,812	.....	287,700
Austria-Hungary	66,300	10,000	121,226
Prussia	26,043,590	14,582,465	15,700,520
Roumania	1,540,500	.....	.....
United States	37,150,303	66,564,965	76,129,568
Other countries	165,074	164,327	54,500
Total	90,470,473	103,851,429	108,548,445
Total value	$10,910,700	$12,524,500	$13,091,000

Imports of agricultural and other products entered for home consumption into the Netherlands, etc.—Continued.

RYE FLOUR.

[Quantities in kilograms of 2.20462 pounds each.]

Country.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Belgium	457,669	266,369	166,719
Bremen	551,443	617,350	1,229,820
France	.....	500	103,000
Great Britain	60,010	212,561	158
Hamburg	12,069,913	4,116,677	4,000,503
Prussia	24,756,369	13,384,948	25,003,340
Russia	2,137,349	.....	2,500
United States	.....	35	335,925
Other countries	249,725	.....	100,000
Total	40,282,478	18,598,440	30,941,965
Total value	$4,858,000	$2,243,000	$3,731,600

POTATO FLOUR.

Belgium	28,318	31,044	12,299
Bremen	30,000	200	1,863
Great Britain	37,387	80,741	29,300
Hamburg	727,057	299,637	154,227
Prussia	4,229,272	4,656,500	12,179,368
Denmark	.....	2,600	.....
Total	5,052,034	5,070,722	12,377,057
Total value	$609,300	$611,500	$1,492,700

RICE FLOUR.

Belgium	742,470	877,950	1,008,358
Great Britain	4,376,895	705,090	2,823,890
Italy	1,279,626	1,702,232	1,744,575
United States	.....	326,085	207,000
Other countries	1,465,752	620,787	391,464
Total	7,864,743	4,232,144	6,175,287
Total value	$948,500	$510,400	$744,700

STARCH.

Belgium	458,283	760,333	780,829
Hamburg	1,169,211	532,809	597,708
Prussia	3,057,654	3,478,676	7,306,348
United States	1,621,764	2,080,908	2,520,284
Other countries	65,469	72,607	96,262
Total	6,372,381	6,925,333	11,301,431
Total value	$768,500	$835,200	$1,362,900

PEASE AND LENTILS.

Belgium	741,135	1,261,000	416,002
Canada	6,187,000	5,648,397	2,806,250
Great Britain	624,875	348,844	84,590
Prussia	7,741,547	2,228,270	6,795,022
Russia	18,751,212	749,974	4,382,168
United States	.....	478,921	213,678
Other countries	182,031	124,653	116,941
Total	34,227,800	10,840,059	14,814,651
Total value	$1,376,000	$435,800	$595,600

Imports of agricultural and other products entered for home consumption into the Netherlands, etc.—Continued.

BEANS AND VETCHES.

[Quantities in kilograms of 2.20462 pounds each.]

Country.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Belgium	1,521,211	902,145	438,120
Great Britain	340,095	707,494	23,226
Hamburg	1,644,850	125,841	100,531
Italy	15,950	417,500	116,500
Austria-Hungary	6,995,800	2,966,503	850,430
Prussia	11,435,707	3,439,416	5,525,908
Roumania	127,600	452,000	107,500
Russia	2,728,535	520,395	265,240
Turkey	834,728	623,000	562,065
Other countries	124,046	229,981	89,766
Total	25,768,522	10,384,275	8,079,286
Total value	$880,500	$354,800	$276,100

VEGETABLES, FRESH AND DRIED, NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED.

Belgium	988,904	2,222,528	1,800,597
Great Britain	700,220	1,698,535	1,834,007
Prussia	336,573	487,362	509,751
Russia	64,060	235	39,580
Other countries	44,076	58,451	58,335
Total	2,133,833	4,467,111	4,242,270
Total value	$257,300	$539,700	$511,600

HAY.

Belgium	1,281,556	1,366,591	3,433,210
Canada	.....	.....	11,500
Norway	.....	.....	67,989
Prussia	322,176	442,675	176,922
Russia	.....	1,750	77,026
United States	.....	.....	786,406
Other countries	51	80	3,471
Total	1,603,783	1,811,096	4,556,524
Total value	$6,400	$7,300	$18,300

STRAW.

Belgium	2,220,639	2,045,094	1,626,135
Prussia	1,773,719	3,648,191	931,549
Other countries	16,060	6,543	13,197
Total	4,010,418	5,699,828	2,570,881
Total value	$193,500	$275,000	$124,000

FRUITS PRESERVED IN SIRUP OR SUGAR.

Belgium	630	733	997
France	1,170	892	1,035
Prussia	5,426	2,620	6,244
United States	.....	74	.....
Other countries	726	1,108	774
Total	7,952	5,427	9,050
Total value	$6,400	$4,400	$7,300

FRUITS, SALTED, OR PRESERVED IN BRANDY, VINEGAR, OR BRINE.

[Values in florins of $0.402 each.]

France	4,501	4,802	2,023
Great Britain	2,716	2,747	2,374
Other countries	7,142	4,587	2,020
Total	14,359	12,136	6,417
Total value	$5,800	$4,900	$2,600

Imports of agricultural and other products entered for home consumption into the Netherlands, etc.—Continued.

FRUITS [OF TREES] FRESH OR DRIED, NOT SPECIALLY MENTIONED.

[Values in florins of $0.402 each.]

Belgium	111,965	149,208	97,289
France	114,706	46,706	51,535
Great Britain	251,719	303,231	261,175
Italy	108,815	141,017	132,945
Prussia	105,572	57,555	48,177
United States	315,900	218,695	146,690
Other countries	116,186	116,726	47,267
Total	1,127,863	1,033,138	785,909
Total value	$453,400	$415,300	$316,000

ALL OTHER FRUITS, FRESH OR DRIED.

[Quantities in kilograms of 2.20462 pounds each.]

Country.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Belgium	2,229	72,757	1,019
Great Britain	61,160	84,117	4,769
United States	.....	.....	18,570
Other countries	9,212	27,785	1,042
Total	72,601	184,659	25,400
Total value	$7,000	$18,600	$2,600

PRUNES.

[Quantities in kilograms of 2.20462 pounds each.]

Country.	1891.	1892.	1893.
France	195,379	101,660	528,566
Hamburg	118,676	57,871	36,165
Austria	18,548	14,370	71,483
Prussia	643,875	445,167	489,034
United States	14	.....	1,127
Other countries	26,976	44,290	67,236
Total	1,003,468	663,358	1,193,611
Total value	$100,900	$66,700	$120,000

FIGS.

Belgium	360,316	418,031	613,812
Portugal	624,310	737,206	722,794
Turkey	84,947	112,977	102,493
Other countries	126,094	261,298	82,586
Total	1,195,667	1,529,512	1,521,685
Total value	$120,200	$153,700	$153,000

RAISINS.

Belgium	72,785	143,137	60,661
Great Britain	271,373	123,229	59,053
Hamburg	154,407	51,678	105,482
Spain	99,733	135,750	9[illegible],498
Turkey	1,916,954	2,491,367	2,438,839
United States	5	.....	.....
Other countries	20,156	32,800	17,102
Total	2,535,413	2,977,961	2,764,635
Total value	$203,900	$239,400	$222,300

Imports of agricultural and other products entered for home consumption into the Netherlands, etc.—Continued.

CURRANTS.

[Quantities in kilograms of $2.20462 pounds each.]

Belgium	1,500,608	424,870	724,698
Greece	6,851,411	6,178,903	9,049,008
Great Britain	79,164	60,726	240,442
Hamburg	60,296	.....	89,577
Austria-Hungary	94,797	1,369	.....
Turkey	5,026	13,405	51,698
Other countries	762	237	7,389
Total	8,592,064	6,679,510	10,162,812
Total value	$1,036,200	$805,600	$1,225,600

ALMONDS.

Belgium	54,158	42,381	59,743
Bremen	2,070	.....	127
France	87,101	205,576	105,707
Greece	.....	.....	1,104
Great Britain	216,347	133,785	193,017
Hamburg	50,833	5,991	81,686
Italy	349,173	217,635	532,336
Portugal	7,585	62	12,073
Prussia	1,113	989	1,470
Spain	8,709	21,444	8,703
Turkey	.....	2,300	.....
Total	777,089	630,163	995,966
Total value	$218,700	$177,300	$280,300

CANDIED CITRON RIND.

France	19,904	22,515	112,206
Italy	445,841	676,069	865,381
United States	.....	591	4,167
Other countries	13,664	15,029	12,969
Total	479,409	714,204	994,723
Total value	$154,200	$229,700	$320,000

PEANUTS AND IVORY NUTS.

Africa, east coast	5,043,713	1,991,512	2,101,655
Africa, west coast	9,777,816	17,544,628	19,576,065
Belgium	177,919	172,750	.....
France	775,818	197,045	228,654
Great Britain	2,187,348	1,039,713	2,781,667
Hamburg	830,587	37,841	592,743
Portugal	224,534	94,610	.....
Spain	170,250	150,987	89,886
United States	.....	38	23,472
Other countries	31	31,067	83,181
Total	19,158,016	21,260,191	25,477,323
Total value	$1,540,300	$1,196,500	$1,433,900

HOPS.

Belgium	282,038	382,504	396,021
Denmark	.....	.....	50
Great Britain	10,641	39,573	242,708
Prussia	1,256,902	1,310,362	744,598
United States	.....	.....	17,609
Total	1,549,581	1,732,439	1,400,986
Total value	$311,500	$348,200	$281,600

Imports of agricultural and other products entered for home consumption into the Netherlands, etc.—Continued.

RAW SUGAR.

[Quantities in kilograms of 2.20462 pounds each.]

Country.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Belgium	50,049,054	45,637,140	55,575,856
Bremen	1,218,835	2,893,639	1,608,009
Great Britain	959,596	1,069,882	951,690
Hamburg	2,406,786	16,217,497	15,929,080
Mecklenburg	911,997	4,902,591	5,524,988
Prussia	35,996,788	44,352,845	20,033,292
United States	.....	24	.....
Other countries	640,642	894,602	572,570
Total	92,183,698	115,968,220	100,195,485
Total value	$12,970,200	$16,316,700	$14,097,500

TOBACCO IN ROLLS AND LEAF (AMERICAN).

Belgium	1,301,641	957,095	851,013
Bremen	633,150	817,166	1,348,011
Prussia	1,395,422	966,763	706,833
United States	4,981,930	4,564,138	4,232,907
Other countries	773,622	576,603	657,065
Total	9,085,765	7,881,765	7,795,829
Total value	$1,826,200	$1,584,200	$1,567,000

TOBACCO IN ROLLS AND LEAF (EUROPEAN).

Belgium	121,181	73,262	51,294
France	62,798	41,952	156,399
Greece	157,724	153,619	150,547
Prussia	560,525	897,632	760,219
United States	43	.....	.....
Other countries	69,417	69,500	85,141
Total	971,688	1,235,965	1,203,600
Total value	$195,300	$248,400	$241,900

TOBACCO IN ROLLS AND LEAF (JAVA).

British Straits Settlements	727,712	628,549	609,527
Dutch East Indies	3,779,777	2,970,235	3,802,490
United States	1,727	801	1,996
Other countries	178,611	218,197	151,629
Total	4,687,827	3,817,782	4,565,642
Total value	$942,200	$767,400	$917,700

TOBACCO IN ROLL AND LEAF, ALL OTHERS.

Belgium	424,532	262,972	342,438
Bremen	192,332	188,223	374,103
British India	125,300	164,593	116,519
British Straits Settlements	101,608	173,539	190,915
France	132,175	118,392	300,017
Great Britain	707,728	365,823	852,095
Dutch East Indies	32,453	101,317	122,383
Hamburg	212,491	330,312	191,473
Prussia	573,276	550,575	1,245,678
Turkey	115,385	14,674	.....
United States	33,962	37,749	55,376
Other countries	39,255	71,838	10,915
Total	2,690,497	2,380,007	3,801,912
Total value	$540,800	$478,400	$764,200

Imports of agricultural and other products entered for home consumption into the Netherlands, etc.—Continued.

CIGARS.

[Quantities in kilograms of 2.20462 pounds each.]

Country.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Belgium	4,770	5,496	4,494
France	4,286	6,954	6,746
Great Britain	3,783	5,136	4,864
Hamburg	7,134	6,714	6,182
Prussia	6,850	7,145	7,508
Russia	1,457	.....	63
United States	6,221	5,678	6,858
Other countries	967	856	918
Total	35,468	37,979	37,633
Total value	$57,000	$61,100	$60,500

CANARY SEED.

Belgium	129,612	24,282	182,116
Prussia	2,682	3,799	228,553
Russia	.....	2,500	862,410
Turkey	490,466	44,236	1,823,814
United States	.....	.....	19,820
Other countries	30,796	24,101	326,189
Total	653,556	98,918	3,442,902
Total value	$36,800	$5,500	$193,800

MUSTARD SEED.

Great Britain	6,786	147,006	29,728
Italy	.....	181,820	248,122
Prussia	263,220	168,617	172,604
Roumania	200,000	.....	.....
Russia	58,471	.....	62,914
United States	.....	.....	5,517
Other countries	8,706	41,552	72,639
Total	537,183	538,995	591,524
Total value	$32,400	$32,500	$35,700

HEMP SEED.

[Quantities in hectoliters of 2.8377 bushels.]

Prussia	8,592	11,483	32,178
Russia	18,549	8,300	3,508
United States	83,856	187,264	297,353
Other countries	1,517	34,922	2,133
Total	112,514	241,969	335,172
Total value	$271,400	$583,600	$808,400

RAPE SEED AND ALL OTHER OIL SEEDS NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED.

Belgium	168,333	107,549	57,092
British India	6,640	39,678	199,100
Great Britain	62,838	67,665	85,351
Prussia	134,213	44,931	91,914
Roumania	105,893	72,375	23,467
Turkey	28,138	3,072	142,311
United States	2	1,076	173
Other countries	72,862	104,723	87,419
Total	578,919	441,069	686,827
Total value	$2,482,400	$1,891,300	$2,945,100

Imports of agricultural and other products entered for home consumption into the Netherlands, etc.—Continued.

LINSEED.

[Quantities in hectoliters of 2.8377 bushels.]

Country.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Belgium	295,509	71,346	139,825
British India	887,873	540,410	1,546,742
Great Britain	68,320	182,215	72,593
Prussia	86,646	130,639	56,260
Russia	1,299,080	830,828	882,665
United States	153,778	304,710	511,274
Other countries	55,317	51,069	49,670
Total	2,846,523	2,111,217	3,259,029
Total value	$9,535,800	$7,072,600	$10,917,800

ONION SEED AND ALL OTHER GARDEN SEEDS.

[Quantities in kilograms of 2.20462 pounds each.]

Belgium	160,449	146,155	195,771
Prussia	141,239	72,510	55,797
Russia	.....	.....	56,198
United States	12,000	4,373	3,904
Other countries	90,430	8,962	40,869
Total	404,118	232,000	352,539
Total value	$162,400	$93,300	$141,700

GRASS SEED.

Great Britain	1,130,989	1,232,888	1,526,105
Prussia	461,512	618,959	345,595
United States	40,538	78,147	145,216
Other countries	37,554	318,360	67,362
Total	1,670,593	2,248,354	2,084,278
Total value	$201,500	$271,100	$251,400

CLOVER AND SPURRY SEED.

Belgium	123,790	214,349	132,942
Hamburg	212,242	100,560	122,153
Prussia	587,626	827,237	986,407
United States	263,542	179,187	755,328
Other countries	87,536	137,225	137,673
Total	1,274,736	1,458,558	2,134,503
Total value	$220,300	$252,100	$369,000

COTTON, RAW.

Belgium	4,233,216	3,416,066	6,174,485
France	94,484	513,694	265,559
Great Britain	8,582,624	6,857,542	7,624,500
Prussia	5,876,813	5,965,258	5,622,316
United States	10,290,922	8,030,184	6,439,990
Other countries	1,317,908	2,099,575	292,383
Total	30,395,967	26,882,319	26,419,233
Total value	$7,331,500	$6,484,000	$6,372,300

COTTON-SEED OIL.

Belgium	286,396	505,966	193,772
France	254,945	6,351	547,885
Great Britain	989,522	868,135	3,697,307
United States	5,054,827	10,915,402	7,589,838
Other countries	50,600	51,654	161,077
Total	6,636,290	12,347,508	12,189,879
Total value	$800,300	$1,489,100	$1,470,100

Imports of agricultural and other products entered for home consumption into the Netherlands, etc.—Continued.

OIL CAKE.[1]

[Quantities in kilograms of 2.20462 pounds each.]

Country.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Belgium	9, 281, 390	6, 973, 097	5, 567, 953
France	695, 123	661, 803	579, 725
Great Britain	231, 718	1, 452, 658	571, 469
Dutch East Indies	153, 771	714, 967	595, 117
Prussia	21, 408, 177	17, 970, 380	13, 004, 663
Russia	560, 536	66, 000	415, 216
United States	10, 234, 278	18, 833, 360	49, 215, 974
Other countries	343, 850	546, 933	206, 919
Total	42, 808, 843	47, 219, 198	70, 157, 036
Total value	$1, 032, 500	$1, 138, 900	$892, 200

HEMP, RAW, UNHATCHELED.

Belgium	99, 554	54, 676	203, 926
France	42, 665	116, 267	10, 363
Great Britain	15, 562, 235	14, 590, 447	17, 987, 437
Hamburg	41, 413	133, 617	128, 997
Italy	26, 289	190, 149	186, 284
Prussia	2, 472, 113	1, 972, 179	1, 818, 311
Russia	229, 788	132, 388	189, 824
Turkey	.....	520, 000	1, 022
United States	15, 710	.....	33, 468
Other countries	5, 430	200	609
Total	18, 495, 197	17, 709, 923	20, 560, 241
Total value	$2, 974, 000	$2, 847, 800	$3, 306, 100

HORSES AND COLTS.

	Number.	*Number.*	*Number.*
Algeria	2	.....	.....
Belgium	2, 131	2, 123	1, 735
British Straits Settlements	1	.....	.....
France	2	.....	.....
Great Britain	3, 126	3, 371	4, 378
Prussia	2, 804	3, 024	2, 690
Russia	2	.....	1
United States	.....	2	8
Total	8, 068	8, 520	8, 812
Total value	$635, 200	$670, 700	$694, 700

[1] In connection with the foregoing tables it may not be out of place to allude to the business which is now being exploited by the American Oil Company of New York for the storage in the city of Rotterdam and the forwarding of its products of cotton-seed oil, seedcake, and other analogous products. Guided by its experience in matter of tank steamers for petroleum it has been decided to employ the same means of transport for cotton-seed oil, a considerable saving being thereby effected in the charges for loading and discharging, coupled with cheaper rates of freight, while the cost of storing in tanks is likewise lower and the manipulation is simpler than is the case of oil in barrels.

Owing to the very favorable geographical position of Rotterdam as a continental port whence Germany and the other countries of Europe can be reached at low freights, coupled with great facilities for vessels of all sizes to load and discharge there, the American Cotton Oil Company decided to establish their chief European office in that city and a plot of ground was bought from the town authorities on the left bank of the river, where several tanks have been built and also a factory for the manufacture of seedcake and flour, together with the necessary pumping and other machinery.

Landing stages have been erected by the local authorities, nearly the whole cost of which will be defrayed by them, while the railway companies have arranged to connect the works with the main line of rail.

Tank wagons and tank lighters are being constructed for the delivery of the oil to consumers, and these latter are preparing storage tanks for their own use.

The tank steamer *Aco*, capable of carrying 4,200 tons of oil or cakes, and furnished with machinery capable of discharging the whole cargo in forty-eight hours, was built at the Inch works in Glasgow, and will be placed under the Dutch flag, while the other properties will be likewise transferred to the local company, which will become a Dutch undertaking with a capital of $520,000, fully paid up by the parent company, under the style of the Holland-American Cotton Oil Company.

Imports of agricultural and other products entered for home consumption into the Netherlands, etc.—Continued.

CATTLE OF ALL KINDS FOR SLAUGHTER.

Country.	1891.	1892.	1893.
	Number.	*Number.*	*Number.*
Great Britain			4
Dutch East Indies	41	37	33
Belgium	17	20	
Prussia	5		10
Total	63	57	47
Total value	$1,845	$1,773	$1,351

SWINE.

	Number.	*Number.*	*Number.*
Belgium	2	2	
Curaçao	1		
Great Britain	10	10	3
Hamburg		2	
Guiana	3		
Dutch East Indies	1		
Prussia	7	6	5
Rio de la Plata	1		
Sweden	1		
Total	26	20	8
Total value	$209	$161	$64

SHEEP AND LAMBS.

	Number.	*Number.*	*Number.*
Great Britain	3		6
Dutch East Indies	3		
Prussia	1		
Total	7		6
Total value	$28		$14

GAME AND POULTRY.

[Values in florins of $0.402 each.]

Belgium	60,622	73,601	77,415
Great Britain	6,278	5,711	4,150
Prussia	21,378	27,585	25,960
United States	20		40
Other countries	494	392	127
Total	88,792	107,289	107,692
Total value	$35,700	$43,100	$43,300

MUTTON[1] AND PORK, FRESH.

[Quantities in kilograms of 2.20462 pounds each.]

Belgium	2,298	2,817	3,749
Total value	$400	$400	$600

[1] THE MEAT TRADE IN HOLLAND.—Mutton, either fresh or frozen, may be imported into Holland free of duty, provided it be accompanied by a certificate of health and that concession for admission (which is readily granted) has been obtained from the Dutch Government. This concession refers to large packages only, as crates, barrels, or loose.

In salted condition mutton may be imported without certificate of health or concession for admission, but it pays a duty of 1 florin ($0.402) per 100 kilograms. The same applies to beef, fresh or salted, with the exception of the duty, which is 6 florins ($2.412) per 100 kilograms, or 1.1 cents per pound. For beef, smoked or dried, the duty is 8 florins ($3.216) per 100 kilograms, or 1.5 cents per pound. The duty on canned mutton and beef is, 1 to 2 pound cans, 25 florins per 100 kilograms = 4.5 cents per pound; 4, 6, and 14 pound cans, 6 florins per 100 kilograms = 1.1 cents per pound.

The prices fat stock were bringing in the Amsterdam market in January last were the following: Cattle, from 10 to 13 cents per pound; calves, from 15 to 17 cents per pound; sheep, from 9 to 10 cents per pound; pigs, from 6 to 7 cents per pound.

Imports of agricultural and other products entered for home consumption into the Netherlands, etc.—Continued.

MUTTON AND PORK, SALTED.

[Quantities in kilograms of 2.20462 pounds each.]

Country.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Belgium	20,621	7,882	40,094
Great Britain	40,920	86,385	68,872
United States	69,909	24,495	28,857
Other countries	479	3,254	1,467
Total	131,929	122,016	139,290
Total value	$21,200	$19,600	$22,400

MUTTON, PORK, AND BACON, SMOKED OR DRIED.

Belgium	2,794,540	3,820,101	1,079,053
Great Britain	2,148,537	2,746,583	1,382,215
United States	3,665,835	2,822,079	689,779
Other countries	81,175	64,204	44,725
Total	8,690,087	9,452,967	3,195,772
Total value	$2,096,100	$2,280,100	$770,800

MEAT OF ALL SORTS NOT SPECIALLY NAMED, FRESH AND SALTED.

Belgium	21,273	33,647	46,083
Great Britain	124,105	83,926	30,739
Prussia	16,383	1,229	1,033
United States	149,458	166,799	188,032
Other countries	10,406	14,901	20,279
Total	321,625	300,502	286,166
Total value	$51,700	$48,300	$46,000

MEAT, NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED, SMOKED OR DRIED.

Belgium	22,287	26,005	56,676
Great Britain	98	33,841	4,227
Prussia	25,630	19,980	15,497
United States	584	20,365	4,261
Other countries	2,430	6,069	4,491
Total	51,029	106,260	85,152
Total value	$12,300	$25,600	$20,500

HIDES AND SKINS, DRIED.[1]

Belgium	259,621	1,048,795	1,981,430
Colombia, Ecuador, and Venezuela	6,430	17,385	154,254
British Straits Settlements	154,306	87,713	20,006
France	251,616	363,950	296,228
Great Britain	4,676,867	5,340,328	5,626,550
Hamburg	229,621	182,400	175,027
Dutch East Indies	3,307,848	2,827,893	3,289,156
Norway	71,941	125,897	240,050
Prussia	350,570	447,291	767,281
Rio de la Plata	78,316	.....	177,960
Turkey	.....	1,015	134,050
United States	38,118	49,720	36,497
Other countries	72,688	27,865	81,531
Total	9,497,942	10,520,252	12,980,020
Total value	$3,818,200	$4,229,200	$5,218,000

[1] Not including those of sheep, lambs, hares, rabbits, and seals.

Imports of agricultural and other products entered for home consumption into the Netherlands, etc.—Continued.

HIDES AND SKINS, SALTED.[1]

[Quantities in kilograms of 2.20462 pounds each.]

Country.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Belgium	3,540,785	2,476,436	2,035,118
France	583,872	863,293	376,771
Great Britain	371,632	570,564	606,993
Hamburg	206,741	109,334	155,347
Prussia	536,372	465,544	1,009,181
Rio de la Plata (Buenos Ayres, etc.)	278,556	.....	42,300
United States	374,921	103,837	41,364
Other countries	91,041	115,912	117,394
Total	5,983,980	4,707,830	4,384,468
Total value	$1,683,900	$1,324,800	$1,233,800

[1]Not including those of sheep, lambs, hares, rabbits, and seals.

LARD.

Belgium	2,050,918	1,556,929	1,448,048
Canada	450,000	130,506	.....
France	807,775	54,574	22,399
Great Britain	1,900,904	2,780,077	2,849,226
Hamburg	260,949	33,484	100,556
Prussia	140,221	36,050	35,431
United States	13,110,210	14,264,927	9,592,921
Other countries	5,397	.....	4,548
Total	18,726,374	18,856,547	14,053,129
Total value	$3,011,200	$3,032,100	$2,259,700

TALLOW AND GREASE.

Australia	124,984	756,003	2,219,943
Belgium	2,241,800	2,512,2[illegible]8	1,710,714
France	1,678,872	1,376,013	501,081
Great Britain	17,486,977	20,606,629	23,506,661
Hamburg	74,200	120,145	313,515
Prussia	504,117	458,084	1,237,904
Russia	56,300	55,086	21,720
United States	18,522,051	11,348,395	1,366,800
Other countries	74,764	204,745	127,642
Total	40,764,065	37,437,338	31,005,980
Total value	$5,080,000	$4,665,500	$3,864,000

STEARIN.

Belgium	770,887	213,519	184,173
France	598,415	780,459	630,438
Great Britain	13,257	.....	107,687
United States	400,904	541,649	343,977
Other countries	7,176	3,184	11,900
Total	1,790,639	1,538,811	1,278,175
Total value	$863,800	$284,600	$236,400

SAUSAGE CASINGS.

Belgium	43,328	12,783	11,204
Bremen	.....	.....	2,698
France	72,674	23,492	13,351
Great Britain	1,298,050	991,719	1,346,682
Hamburg	108,170	115,502	155,706
Prussia	34,251	1,698	37,383
Russia	10,922	980	.....
United States	1,114,398	1,461,731	1,280,715
Sweden	2,212	.....	.....
Total	2,684,005	2,607,905	2,847,739
Total value	$1,618,500	$1,576,800	$1,717,200

Imports of agricultural and other products entered for home consumption into the Netherlands, etc.—Continued.

MARGARIN, RAW.

[Quantities in kilograms of 2.20462 pounds each.]

Country.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Belgium	3,717,207	5,393,884	5,075,924
Great Britain	2,603,455	3,184,657	2,443,601
Prussia	5,920,290	4,129,628	3,787.973
United States	11,298 717	35,572,932	38,589,745
Other countries	469,422	454,302	1,436,227
Total	24,009,091	48,735,403	51,333,470
Total value	$4,343,200	$8,816,200	$9,286,200

MARGARIN (EDIBLE), AND ALL OTHER SUBSTITUTES FOR BUTTER.

Belgium	317,810	456,345	498,345
Great Britain	334,966	251,666	294,084
Prussia	99,879	342,822	147,349
United States	3,788,245	397,710	20,000
Other countries	163,044	102,164	70,169
Total	4,703,944	1,550,707	1,029,947
Total value	$1,512,800	$498,700	$331,000

BUTTER.

Belgium	68.258	62,630	77,111
Denmark	103,494	95,272	103,985
France	13,764	4,689	2,195
Great Britain	1,919,734	2,006,838	1,675,716
Prussia	178,0'7	102,525	24,895
Russia	15.177	.....	29,474
Other countries	16,094	5,406	3,271
Total	2,314,538	2,277,360	1,916,647
Total value	$930,400	$915,500	$770.500

CHEESE.

Belgium	75,928	72,567	89,351
France	142	.....	550
Great Britain	9,300	6,674	11,601
Italy	728	558	130
Prussia	185,722	163,585	154,300
United States	180	.....	.....
Other countries	428	1,809	2,114
Total	272,428	245,193	258,046
Total value	$38,400	$34,500	$36,300

EGGS.

Belgium	196,464	233,566	183,378
Bremen	.....	.....	90
Denmark	8,863	.....	.....
Great Britain	26,025	15,192	844
Hamburg	65,351	35,499	49,830
Prussia	4,695,016	4,241,290	4,042,657
Russia	104,036	15,075	10,000
Dutch East Indies	.....	.....	23
United States	.....	15	.....
Total	5,095,755	4,540,637	4,286,822
Total value	$921,800	$821,400	$775,500

Imports of agricultural and other products entered for home consumption into the Netherlands, etc.—Continued.

WAX, UNBLEACHED.

[Quantities in kilograms of 2.20462 pounds each.]

Country.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Belgium	19,469	10,497	41,578
Great Britain	80,280	47,188	77,692
Hamburg	27,221	30,813	43,114
Portugal	109,851	125,119	47,933
Prussia	98,324	268,767	429,623
United States	34,358	86,802	31,853
Other countries	41,708	32,677	44,398
Total	411,211	601,863	716,191
Total value	$264,500	$387,100	$460,700

WAX, BLEACHED.

Belgium	7,632	7,264	1,704
Great Britain	2,419	10,260	30,350
Prussia	171,156	301,840	282,325
United States	32,500	.....	195,206
Other countries	4,380	5,714	8,211
Total	218,087	325,078	517,796
Total value	$201,600	$300,300	$478,700

WOOL OF ALL KINDS, SHORT.

Great Britain	12,095,994	21,075,630	17,891,371
Prussia	238,469	414,144	219,988
Other countries	114	9,870	218,150
Total	12,334,577	21,499,644	18,329,509
Total value	$5,950,200	$10,371,400	$8,842,200

WOOL OF ALL KINDS, LONG.

Belgium	1,227,469	1,412,355	1,992,415
Great Britain	9,168,181	3,879,146	160,349
Prussia	736,648	589,738	623,023
Other countries	5,093	25,818	15,991
Total	11,137,391	5,907,057	2,791,778
Total value	$5,372,700	$2,849,600	$1,346,700

WOOL OF ALL KINDS, COMBED.

Belgium	88,758	50,277	41,767
Great Britain	67,047	244,922	235,001
Prussia	18,938	21,117	27,297
Other countries	13,009	6,706	8,194
Total	187,752	323,022	312,259
Total value	$188,700	$324,700	$313,800

WINE, IN CASKS.

[Quantities in hectoliters of 26.417 Winchester gallons each.]

Belgium	8,274	7,840	8,048
France	64,223	58,824	58,434
Great Britain	5,419	6,144	5,364
Portugal	4,712	4,023	4,168
Prussia	6,863	6,371	6,105
Spain	13,074	13,265	14,687
United States	101	100	234
Other countries	6,867	7,173	6,973
Total	109,533	103,740	103,413
Total value	$1,761,300	$1,668,100	$1,662,900

Imports of agricultural and other products entered for home consumption into the Netherlands, etc.—Continued.

WINE, IN BOTTLES.

[Quantities in hectoliters of 26.417 Winchester gallons each.]

Country.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Belgium	3,313	3,295	3,414
France	2,175	1,709	1,630
Prussia	2,234	2,274	2,319
Spain	108	84	94
United States	6	1	8
Other countries	284	290	338
Total	8,120	7,653	7,803
Total value	$130,600	$123,100	$125,500

RUM, ARRACK, AND OTHER DISTILLED LIQUORS.

[Quantities in liters of 0.26417 gallon each.]

Belgium	193,148	198,984	186,195
Bremen	7,529	9,688	20,640
France	2,313,665	2,335,398	2,146,241
Great Britain	144,202	174,423	168,431
Dutch Guiana	6,522	3,040	10,154
Hamburg	88,755	110,566	87,264
Dutch East Indies	6,257	6,401	14,469
Prussia	42,409	38,711	37,942
Spain	30,717	33,453	27,514
United States	17,300	8,793	6,214
Other countries	3,940	6,052	9,302
Total	2,854,444	2,925,509	2,714,366
Total value	$459,000	$470,400	$436,500

BEER.

[Quantities in hectoliters of 26.417 gallons each.]

Belgium	803	846	734
Great Britain	3,506	3,263	3,095
Prussia	23,111	23,065	23,446
Other countries	70	209	57
Total	27,490	27,383	27,332
Total value	$66,300	$66,000	$65,900

SPONGES.

[Quantities in kilograms of 2.20462 pounds each.]

Belgium	6,538	6,396	5,027
France	.....	569	24,983
Great Britain	24,525	15,212	13,947
Hamburg	4,001	109	215
Prussia	12,642	1,024	11,706
Turkey	14,207	701	.....
United States	55,250	92,125	111,265
Other countries	19	262	34
Total	117,182	116,398	167,177
Total value	$249,700	$248,000	$356,200

TURPENTINE.

Belgium	151,156	74,839	249,833
Great Britain	1,961	110,285	8,094
United States	7,089,936	8,286,200	5,952,195
Other countries	85,628	93,487	22,557
Total	7,328,681	8,564,811	6,232,679
Total value	$1,473,000	$1,721,500	$1,252,800

Imports of agricultural and other products entered for home consumption into the Netherlands, etc.—Continued.

PETROLEUM.

[Quantities in kilograms of 2.20462 pounds each.]

Country.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Belgium	5,918,112	5,700,568	3,314,259
Russia	4,070,584	3,069,043	2,971,717
United States	98,423,676	109,961,253	118,614,633
Other countries	2,086,389	395,047	173,902
Total	110,498,761	119,125,911	125,074,511
Total value	$3,109,400	$3,352,200	$3,519,600

WOOD, FOR SHIPBUILDING AND TIMBER, IMPORTED BY SEA WITHOUT BREAKING PACKAGES, NOT SAWED.

[Quantities in metric tons of 2,204.62 pounds each.]

Norway	13,565	8,899	6,291
Prussia	12,136	7,278	3,991
Russia	66,721	88,595	74,949
United States	7,643	20,073	11,655
Sweden	48,490	68,200	46,092
Other countries	2,466	2,484	6,229
Total	151,021	195,529	149,207
Total value	$1,335,600	$1,729,200	$1,319,600

WOOD, FOR SHIPBUILDING AND TIMBER, IMPORTED BY SEA WITHOUT BREAKING PACKAGES, SAWED.

[Quantities in metric tons of 2,204.62 pounds each.]

Norway	26,064	25,594	19,541
Prussia	15,427	18,435	13,701
Russia	77,740	82,180	86,211
United States	18,638	48,714	33,509
Sweden	72,768	93,482	67,757
Other countries	1,930	1,329	618
Total	212,627	269,734	221,337
Total value	$2,393,300	$3,036,100	$2,491,400

WOOD, FOR SHIPBUILDING AND TIMBER, ALL OTHER KINDS NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED, NOT SAWED.

[Value in florins of $0.402 each.]

Belgium	153,218	120,359	129,103
Java	132,754	236,899	62,622
Norway	373,195	72,995	50,755
Prussia	2,398,194	2,557,189	1,809,047
Russia	1,999,611	1,867,783	1,715,463
United States	521,790	630,135	1,074,860
Sweden	960,450	1,223,175	1,089,750
Other countries	123,298	340,419	240,136
Total	6,662,510	7,048,954	6,171,736
Total value	$2,678,300	$2,833,700	$2,481,000

WOOD, FOR SHIPBUILDING AND TIMBER, ALL OTHER KINDS NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED, SAWED.

Belgium	332,533	342,594	389,287
Great Britain	54,199	36,126	41,681
Norway	1,058,011	1,329,418	1,039,519
Prussia	1,646,058	1,727,137	3,620,346
Russia	1,999,035	3,164,567	2,690,525
United States	683,175	727,480	382,227
Sweden	1,795,950	1,801,716	2,455,960
Other countries	53,352	13,453	177,645
Total	7,622,313	9,142,491	10,797,190
Total value	$3,664,200	$3,675,300	$4,340,500

THE MARGARIN INDUSTRY.

In 1872–1874 the world-famed Holland dairies, in sharp competition with the butter manufacturers of other countries, began employing sirup and glucose in adulterating their products, and this adulteration increased from 10 to 25 per cent, and then to 50 per cent. As the proportion of the new ingredients grew the necessity for substances absolutely wholesome became imperative, which resulted in the exploitation of its manufacturing, since which time large margarin factories in the Netherlands have been erected at Rotterdam, Oss, Nymwegen, Bois le Duc, Haarlem, Helmond, Dordrecht, Oosterhout, Amsterdam, and other places. The factories differ greatly in size, capacity, and value, but they are all equipped with modern improvements, and those most recently built represent very large investments.

The following is a description of the manufacture of oleo oil and of margarin from the oleo oil from a paper read by Mr. Anton Jurgens, of Oss, Holland, and reported by the United States consul at Rotterdam, under date of April 20, 1891:

Margarin, as manufactured at our factories in Holland, is composed of oleomargarine (oleo oil), milk, the purest vegetable oil that can be obtained, and real butter.

Oleomargarine, the chief constituent, is prepared as follows: From freshly slaughtered carcasses of cattle in the abattoirs of large cities the superfluous portions of suet are taken and carted in vans specially fitted to the factories of manufacturers of repute, where the fat is carefully sorted and the very finest element and sweetest portions selected for the manufacture of oleomargarine.

Fat forms about one-twentieth of the weight of a healthy animal. Only a small portion of this can be consumed as food in the ordinary way; the rest used to find its way to the tallow melter. I claim it is a matter of no small importance, therefore, that we are enabled by this process to produce at a moderate price an abundant supply of wholesome food and at the same time to utilize a very large proportion of a previously almost waste material.

The fat, when selected, is passed into a machine which reduces it to a pulp about the consistency of real cream. Thus brought to an even texture, the fat is now put into wooden vats and heated by steam or hot water at a moderate temperature—not too hot, because too high a degree of heat imparts to the fat a flavor of wastings and detracts seriously from its value as a substitute for butter. When melted the fat is run into jacketed vats to cool and slowly clarify. After some hours the stearin, or harder portion, begins to solidify, its whiteness contrasting conspicuously with the bright yellow of the oleo. When the material has acquired sufficient consistency it is wrapped in small quantities in clean white cloths and subjected to a hydraulic pressure of about 100 tons, in order that as much as possible of the oleo may be extracted. The stearin still finds its way to the tallow melter, but the pure oleo is destined to a better application.

CONVERTING OLEO OIL INTO MARGARIN.

This oleo oil and a proportion of butter, milk, and of the finest and sweetest vegetable oil are now churned together for some time, after which the churned mixture is cooled by coming in contact with ice-cold water, and is then pressed between large fluted rollers, during which process a due proportion of salt is incorporated. It is delivered by these rollers upon large tables on rollers, which pass it on to the packers.

The oleo oil treated in the manner here described differs very little from the fat which forms the cream in milk from which butter is churned, except that in the case of oleo oil the fat is taken direct from the animal, the stearin being extracted by pressure, while in the case of natural butter the fat is converted by the action of the mammary tissues of the cow into cream, which, being churned, the fatty matter is recovered in the form of butter.

AMERICAN OLEO OIL IN THE NETHERLANDS.

American export cities.—The chief city of export of oleo oil in the United States is Chicago. During 1890 it sent to Rotterdam quite 60,000,000 pounds, or more than one-half the total American supply. Other export cities of importance are New York, Philadelphia, Omaha, Kansas City, and Boston.

Principal market in the Netherlands.—The trade in American oleo oil for the Netherlands centers in Rotterdam. There are in this city eight importers and fifteen brokers dealing exclusively in the product. One of the great Chicago packers has here his own representative, sent from Chicago, while the others are represented by resident firms of established standing and reputation.

The large margarin factories in the Netherlands number 32; in Rotterdam, 5; Oss, 4; Nymwegen, 4; Bois le Duc, 3; Haarlem, 2; Helmond, 2; and in Dordrecht, Oosterhout, Asten, Alkmaar, Amsterdam, Waspik, Zwammerdam, Gouda, The Hague, Middelburg, Oldenzaal, and Weesp, 1 each. These factories differ greatly in size, capacity, and value. All, however, are modern in equipment, and those more recently built represent large investments, proving the faith of their Dutch owners in the future of margarin. One plant lately erected in Rotterdam cost 500,000 guilders ($200,000) and ranks among the imposing structures of the city.

A representative factory.—Probably the most representative among margarin factories of the Netherlands is one situated at Oss, in the Province of North Brabant. It is owned and operated by Anton Jurgens, whose family, through four successive generations, have made butter on the site of the present factory. The buildings and grounds are extensive, the machinery employed is ingenious, efficient, and costly, and from end to end the establishment is a marvel of Dutch orderliness and cleanliness.

This factory produces and ships regularly 25 tons of margarin per week. It gives steady employment to 200 heads of families, many of whom are expert workmen. It consumes each week an average of 132,000 quarts of milk, the yield of 10,500 cows, owned by 2,000 small farmers living in the adjacent country districts.

The little city of Oss has 6,000 inhabitants. It has 4 margarin factories, but no other industry of note. Directly or indirectly, its 6,000 people, as also the majority of the farmer folk for miles around, get their very comfortable living out of the margarin industry, which has become here, as elsewhere in Holland, a permanent local beneficence.

Margarin exports from the Netherlands.—The above-reported increase of oleo oil imports into the Netherlands—more than 600 per cent within five years—indicates a corresponding increase in the exports of margarin. The factories here are employed chiefly in supplying a foreign demand, the estimated home consumption of margarin being only 10 per cent of the total output.

Statistics relating to margarin exports are, however, unobtainable, there being no records of value for purposes of comparison, either public or private. Commercial statistics in the Netherlands are kept but indifferently well at best; and as to margarin, until the enforcement, in January, 1890, of the national law requiring all margarin to be branded it had uniformly been classified with other dairy products, never separately.

Experts in the trade who have been questioned agree that the present exports are considerably more than twice as large as those of five years ago, and that the foreign market is steadily increasing.

The countries principally purchasing the Netherlands margarin are Great Britain, Belgium, and Germany, countries, it is significant to note, whose cities, above all other cities of Europe, teem with work people earning small wages, to whom cheap food is essential.

The glimpse thus afforded of the growth and present extent of a permanent and valuable industry of the Netherlands, which had its exceedingly unpopular beginning less than twenty years ago, suggests a glance at the cause of such growth and at the methods whereby it has been attained.

BUTTER LAW.

The following is a copy of the "butter law" intended to prevent the deception in the butter trade in the Netherlands. The law was passed June 23, 1889, and went into effect January 1, 1890:

The fact that American oleomargarine is used so largely in the manufacture of artificial butter in Holland, and in order that manufacturers, exporters, and other parties interested in the United States in supplying the Netherlands with oleomargarine should be familiar with the law upon the subject, the same is inserted, viz:

ARTICLE 1. In the sense of this law butter is the article of fat in which, besides salt and coloring, no other ingredients appear except those coming from milk, and substitutes for butter is the article of fat which is no butter, but resembles it and can serve to replace it.

ART. 2. It is prohibited to supply a substitute for butter or to have it in a shop or any other place for sale if there be not on the covering, or, in default thereof, on the merchandise itself, the word "margarin," or, if the ware be not prepared from oleomargarine, unless the word "substitute" appear in distinct letters. The size of the letters and mode in which these must be put on will be defined by our minister for the water department, trade, and industry, and published in the Gazette.

ART. 3. With the tracing of the facts rendered punishable by this law, the officials mentioned in article 8, Nos. 1 to 6, inclusive, of the Law Book for Criminal Instruction Proceedings, the mounted police, and all other officials of the imperial and communal police, are charged.

ART. 4. The shops or other public places of sale where butter or other merchandise resembling it is in store are accessible from 8 o'clock a. m. to 8 o'clock p. m.,

except on Sundays, even against the will of the tenant or the occupier, to the officials mentioned in article 3. If the shops or other public places of sale be only accessible through a dwelling house, then they may not enter these against the will of the occupier, except with a magistrate's or burgomaster's warrant, which warrant they are bound to show to the occupier if he demand it. Of this entry an official report (procès verbal) must be drawn up within twice twenty-four hours and a copy sent to the person whose house has been entered.

ART. 5. The officials named in article 3 are authorized to take samples from the butter in stock or like merchandise, in case the same is supplied outside the shops and other public places of sale. This authorization is not given if the merchandise resembling butter be labeled substitute of butter in one of the modes prescribed in or by virtue of article 2. For the sample the market price will be paid if such request be made to the official who takes the sample.

ART. 6. The samples mentioned by the former article, being sealed by the appointed officials and with the addition of an official report (procès verbal) stating the origin of each sample, are to be sent as soon as possible to the authorized official at the home office, by whose care they will be transmitted to the experts appointed by our minister of the water department, trade, and industry, and charged with the analyzing of the samples in accordance with the prescriptions given by him and at a fee to be fixed by him. The interested party is qualified to seal the samples with his own seal or to authenticate the paper to which the seal of the official is affixed with his signature. In the official report (procès verbal) is to be stated whether, and if so, in which way he has made use of this qualification.

ART. 7. The transgression of one of the regulations of article 2 of this law will be punished by imprisonment not exceeding two months, or a fine not exceeding 200 guilders [say $80], and if, at the time the offense was committed, a year has not elapsed since a former condemnation of the offender has become irrevocable for the breaking of one of the regulations of this law, by imprisonment not exceeding four months, or a fine not exceeding 400 guilders [say $160]. He is not punishable who in case of transgression of article 2, section 1, proves that the merchandise wherewith the transgression was committed was bona fide believed by him to be butter.

ART. 8. In case of condemnation the judge may order publicity to be given to the judicial sentence, or to an extract therefrom, at the expense of the condemned.

ART. 9. The acts rendered punishable by this law will be regarded as a misdemeanor.

ART. 10. This law goes into force at a period to be hereafter fixed by us.

Be it known and decreed that this shall be published in the Gazette, and that all ministerial departments, authorities, boards, and officials whom it may concern shall see to its due execution.

Given at the Loo, the 23d of June, 1889.

MONEY, WEIGHTS, AND MEASURES.

Money.—The standard coin is the 10-florin piece weighing 6.720 grams, 900 fine, and thus containing 6.048 grams of fine gold. The unit of the silver coinage is the florin, weighing 10 grams, 945 fine, and containing 9.45 grams of fine silver. Gold is legal tender, also the silver coins issued before 1875. The principal coins are the gulden, guilder, or florin of 100 cents, equal to 40.2 cents; or 12 guilder, equal to $4.824; the rijksdaalder, equal to 2½ guilders; the gold piece of 10 guilders; one-half guilder; one-quarter guilder (kwartje); one-tenth guilder (dubbeltje); one-twentieth guilder (stuivertje). Cent coins are one-half cent, 1 cent, and 2½ cents.

Weights and measures.—The metric system of weights and measures, and, with trifling changes, the metric denominations are adopted in the Netherlands.

UNITED STATES CONSULS IN THE NETHERLANDS.

The following is a list of the places in the Netherlands at which United States consular officers are stationed, together with the names of the same:

Residence.	Name.	Rank.
Amsterdam	Edward Downes	Consul.
Do	Albertus Vinke	Vice and deputy consul.
Rotterdam	Lars S. Reque	Consul.
Do	John Visser	Vice-consul.
Do	Aire H. Voorwinden	Deputy consul.
Flushing	Peter Smith	Commercial agent.
Schiedam	Leonard Koot	Do.

NETHERLANDS CONSULS IN THE UNITED STATES.

The following is a list of the consular representatives of the Netherlands in the United States:

Residence.	Name and jurisdiction.	Rank.
San Francisco, Cal	P. J. van Loben Sels	Consul.
Washington, D. C	Alfred Schücking	Vice-consul.
Pensacola, Fla	R. J. Jordan	Do.
Savannah, Ga	W. de Bruyn Kops	Consul.
Chicago, Ill	G. Birkhoff, jr	Do.
	For Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho.	
New Orleans, La	A. Schreiber	Do.
	For Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida.	
Baltimore, Md	Claas Vocke	Do.
Boston, Mass	C. V. Dasey	Do.
	For Massachusetts, Maine, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, and Vermont.	
Grand Rapids, Mich	John Steketee	Vice-consul.
St. Paul, Minn	J. B. Hartsinck	Do.
Shieldsboro, Miss	L. H. von Gohren	Do.
	For Bay St. Louis.	
St. Louis, Mo	B. B. Haagsma	Consul.
	For Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Colorado, Arkansas, Utah, New Mexico, and Arizona.	
New York, N. Y	J. R. Planten	Consul-general.
	For New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut.	
	Wm. M. B. Gravenhorst	Vice-consul.
Cincinnati, Ohio	F. Matt	Consul.
	For Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, and Tennessee.	
Philadelphia, Pa	Arnold Katz	Vice-consul.
Charleston, S. C	Oscar Aichel	Do.
Galveston, Tex	E. S. Flint	Consul.
Norfolk, Va	Barton Myers	Vice-consul.

CONSULAR REPORTS.

ROTTERDAM.

(*Report of Mr. Lars S. Reque, consul at Rotterdam.*)

[Rotterdam, the chief port and second city of the Netherlands, is in the province of South Holland and situated 51° 55′ 19″ north latitude and 4° 29′ 7″ east longitude, on the right bank of the Nieuwe Maas, at its junction with the Rotte, a small stream near Moerkapelle, and is the most redoubtable competitor of Antwerp, the Belgian commercial metropolis. It is 14½ miles southeast from The Hague, the capital of the Netherlands, and 44½ miles south of Amsterdam, and is 20½ miles from the North Sea, with which it is also directly connected by a ship canal (Nieuwe Waterway), admitting the largest vessels and not interrupted by a single lock. Both banks of the river are used. On the right bank are situated the ancient and more shallow basins. On the left, numerous basins have been constructed, whose area is about 136 acres, with a depth of 23 feet. The total area of the basins of Rotterdam amounts now to about 272 acres, with quays 13 miles long. In the roadstead there are 56 moorings, and 26 transatlantic liners can there unload into the Rhine boats whose size now reaches up to 2,500 tons. Its wharves are considerable, its basins are large, and its petroleum ports are in direct communication with the river. The city is intersected by numerous canals, which permit large vessels to move alongside the warehouses in the very center of the city. These canals, which are crossed by drawbridges and swinging bridges, are in many cases lined with museums containing chiefly Dutch and modern paintings, and the Government dockyards and arsenals, besides numerous churches. It also contains shipyards, sugar refineries, distilleries, tobacco factories, and large machine shops, besides a great variety of small factories for the production of lead, iron, and copper wares, white lead, varnishes, beer, and vinegar; but its mainstay is commerce. It not only carries on a very extensive commerce and active trade with Great Britain, the Dutch East and West Indies, and other transoceanic countries, but, as the natural outlet for the entire basin of the Rhine and Maas, it has developed an important commerce with Germany, Switzerland, and Central Europe. In 1846 it had only 321,764 tons out of a total of 1,024,705 tons which then represented the export trade of the Netherlands; in 1883 it had 1,940,026 tons out of a total of 3,953,009 tons. In 1893 the tonnage of vessels cleared from Rotterdam was 1,635,834 out of a total of 6,154,644 tons. Its total shipping in 1892 and 1893 is shown by the following figures: Vessels entered in 1892, 4,078; tonnage, 2,945,634; in 1893, 4,068; tonnage, 3,229,896. Vessels cleared: In 1892, 2,830; tonnage, 1,640,436; in 1893, 2,640; tonnage, 1,635,834. In 1633 the population was 53,212; in 1796, 72,294; in 1830, 88,812; in 1850, 105,858; in 1860, 132,054; in 1880, 148,102, and in 1893, 228,597.]

The Netherlands, or Holland, is chiefly an agricultural country. Its rich grazing lands and mild winters make it especially adapted for cattle raising and dairying, and nearly all farmers are more or less extensively engaged in that pursuit. The number of cattle raised far exceeds that needed for consumption, and large shipments are annually made to England, France, Belgium, Germany, and also to Spain and Italy. According to the statistics of 1891—the latest general statistics obtainable—there were in the Netherlands for dairying, fattening, and draft purposes 1,532,153 head of cattle, or more than 120 head to the square mile.

The average price of cattle over 2 years old in 1891 was $65.60 per head. Cattle less than 2 years old $50, and calves $3.64. Present market reports quote milch cows at $60 to $100; steers, $30 to $75; calves, $4 to $13. It should be remembered that cattle are not sold by weight in this country, but by the head, the weight being a matter of shrewd guessing.

HORSES.

In 1891 there were in the Netherlands 33,807 brood mares, 926 stallions, 180,888 work horses, and 56,304 colts under 3 years; in all, 271,925. The average number of horses imported per year is 7,215, and the number exported, 9,434. Blooded English horses are imported by the fastidious for driving and riding purposes, and the heavy Belgian draft horse finds a good market in the large seaports. The average price of the native horse is about $160, choice animals bringing a much higher price. Horses are exported to Germany, France, Belgium, England, and Italy.

SHEEP.

The consumption of mutton in the Netherlands is very small. I am informed that mutton is not eaten by the farming population. Sheep are raised almost exclusively for export. In 1891 there were 810,631 sheep in the Netherlands. No accurate statistics are obtainable as to consumption and exportation. Large shipments are made to England, and also to Belgium, France, and Germany. Sheep command an average price of $7.75 per head, or about 6 cents per pound, alive.

MULES.

Mules are but little used and statistics show that their number is decreasing. They are inferior animals of small size and are sold at an average price of about $12 per head. The number of asses and mules in the Netherlands in 1891 was 1,973. Mules do not seem to be imported or exported.

CEREALS.

Wheat.—The consumption of wheat is very large, wheat bread being commonly eaten even among the poorer classes. But accurate statistics are not obtainable. In 1892, 183,388 acres were sown to wheat, yielding a total crop of 5,380,000 bushels. It is estimated that the consumption of wheat amounts to about four times the quantity produced.

The table showing the quantity of wheat imported into the Netherlands during the calendar years 1891, 1892, and 1893 is given on page 36.

Of the total quantity of wheat imported into the country 561,287 tons, 520,237 tons, and 547,500 tons were entered at Rotterdam during the above-named years, respectively.

From the annual report of Messrs. M. and R. de Monchy, of Rotterdam, I gather that the imports into this port in 1894 were:

	Bushels.
From the Russian Baltic ports	187,711
From the Prussian Baltic ports	567,646
From Russian Black Sea ports	10,913,240
From Turkey	3,644,755
From North America	4,044,781
From South America	3,275,871
From India	451,699
From various countries	27,326
Total	23,113,029

The same report states the importation of wheat at Amsterdam during the same year at 24,683,443 bushels. It is estimated that about one-half of this amount is exported again to other countries, but no trustworthy records are to be obtained.

According to M. and R. de Monchy's statement the price of wheat per bushel at Rotterdam during the last ten years has been as follows:

Year.	Dutch wheat.	American red winter wheat.	Odessa wheat.
1885	$0.99@$1.15	$1.06@$1.21	$0.94@$1.08
1886	.92@ 1.08	.99@ 1.15	.94@ 1.04
1887	.89@ 1.08	.89@ 1.10	.85@ 1.04
1888	.89@ 1.08	1.01@ 1.18	.85@ 1.13
1889	1.04@ 1.13	.....	.92@ 1.08
1890	.85@ 1.13	1.06@ 1.21	.92@ 1.10
1891	1.13@ 1.65	1.21@ 1.35	.94@ 1.37
1892	.87@ 1.51	.80@ 1.18	.89@ 1.21
1893	.85@ .92	.82@ .94	.71@ .82
1894	.59@ .96	.63@ .77	.47@ .77

MAIZE (INDIAN CORN).

Maize is in fair demand for animal food, mostly for poultry. It is also used in the manufacture of gin and starch. No corn is grown in the Netherlands. The importation of this cereal during the last five years is shown in the following table, taken from the above-named report:

Maize imported to Rotterdam.

Countries.	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
	Bushels.	*Bushels.*	*Bushels.*	*Bushels.*	*Bushels.*
United States	2,911,753	2,972,821	5,134,942	1,203,529	2,130,478
Black Sea districts	2,732,489	6,176,641	1,677,224	1,753,760	863,174
Various countries	.....	.....	50,229	185,252	120,720
Total	5,644,242	9,149,462	6,862,395	3,142,541	3,114,372

Only a part of the above importations was consumed in the Netherlands; the greater portion no doubt found its way to other countries. Corn prices in 1894 fluctuated between $36 and $50 per 2,000 kilograms, or 45 to 65 cents per bushel.

BARLEY.

According to statistics of 1892, 107,689 acres of barley were cultivated in that year, yielding 4,981,000 bushels. Imports of barley into Rotterdam have been as follows during the last five years:

Barley imported into Rotterdam.

Country or port.	1894.	1893.	1892.	1891.	1890.
	Bushels.	*Bushels.*	*Bushels.*	*Bushels.*	*Bushels.*
St. Petersburg, Russia	29, 710	2, 128	.....	.....	.....
Pernau and Reval, Russia	134, 079	196, 990	345, 202	853, 003	876, 498
Riga, Russia	15, 739	110, 839	73, 978	424, 884	536, 915
Libau and Vindau, Russia	67, 233	92, 962	27, 667	353, 204	366, 995
Prussian Baltic ports	49, 546	196, 821	88, 876	50, 993	116, 117
Russian Black Sea ports	8, 767, 646	6, 650, 952	3, 502, 163	3, 411, 840	3, 930, 793
Turkey	4, 242, 113	3, 209, 106	2, 094, 879	2, 185, 287	1, 624, 366
Fiume	257, 518	570, 456	461, 405	396, 621	428, 970
Various places	28, 018	181, 667	169, 579	258, 455	383, 340
Total	13, 591, 602	11, 211, 921	6, 763, 749	7, 934, 287	8, 233, 994

The better grades of barley are used by the gin distilleries and breweries, the inferior grades as animal food for horses, cattle, and hogs. A large portion of the imports was doubtless only entered here in transit for other countries.

Prices for higher and lower grades of barley have fluctuated as follows during the last ten years:

Year.	Per bushel.	Year.	Per bushel.
1885	$0.49 @ $0.73	1890	$0.49 @ $0.76
1886	.42½ @ .62½	1891	.60½ @ .93½
1887	.36 @ .58	1892	.45 @ 1.05
1888	.41 @ .62½	1893	.38 @ .65
1889	.45 @ .65	1894	.31 @ .51½

OATS.

In 1892, 312,354 acres were sown to oats, with a yield of 15,006,000 bushels.

Imports into Rotterdam during the last four years have been:

Year.	Bushels.	Year.	Bushels.
1894	11, 968, 171	1892	1, 408, 991
1893	8, 357, 467	1891	8, 122, 679

Statistics do not show from which countries these oats were imported, but one can safely say that the larger part came from Russia. The statistics issued by Messrs. M. and R. de Monchy do not show that any oats were imported from the United States. How much of the oats imported was again exported can not be stated.

Oat prices have been as follows during the last ten years:

Year.	Per bushel.	Year.	Per bushel.
1885	$0.40@$0.46	1890	$0.40@$0.52
1886	.35@ .44	1891	.37@ .67
1887	.30@ .37	1892	.44@ .55
1888	.30@ .46	1893	.37@ .46
1889	.35@ .46	1894	.30@ .44

FLOUR.

Wheat bread is eaten by all classes in Holland, and the working classes eat little else than bread. The demand for wheat flour is consequently very great. In 1893, 69,545 tons (2,204.62 pounds each) of flour were imported into Rotterdam. Of that amount 63,990 tons came from the United States and 5,555 tons from other countries.

The following statistics have been obtained from the collector of customs at Rotterdam:

Importation of wheat flour in Rotterdam in 1894.

Country.	Pounds.	Country.	Pounds.
Prussia	5,696,524	Italy	22,046
Hamburg	1,132,413	Turkey	154,323
Russia	116,798	France	1,495,209
United States of America	121,285,705	Norway	881
Great Britain	656,231		
Austria-Hungary	87,765	Total	130,647,886

Hungarian flour commands the highest price. American flour ranks next.

Present flour quotations in Rotterdam.

Grade.	Per 100 pounds.	Grade.	Per 100 pounds.
Prime native	$1.68@$1.77	Prime American	$1.90@$2.00
First quality	1.50@ 1.54	First quality	1.50@ 1.54
Extra fine Hungarian	2.45@ 2.54	Second quality	1.40@ 1.45
First quality	2.00@ 2.36	Sealand native	1.86@ 1.90

The following is extracted from the report of the collector of customs, May 31, 1894:

The demand for the higher grade of wheat flour is limited but increasing. For pastry and fine baking Hungarian flour seems to be given the preference, and commands a slightly higher price than American flour of the same quality. "First bakers" is the grade most used, with a fair demand for "Second bakers" and "Low grade."

Messrs. J. A. Box & Co., flour merchants of Rotterdam, estimate the relative demand for the various grades of flour as follows:

	Sacks.
"First bakers"	100
"Second bakers" and "Low grade"	40
"Starlight"	10
"Patent"	1

I am inclined to think that the estimated demand for "patent" in the above table is rather low.

Messrs. Peters & Son, leading bakers of Rotterdam, inform me that they use large quantities of Minneapolis "patent," and that they are highly pleased with it.

Millers here are heavy importers of American flour of the "bakers" grade. It is claimed that it is mixed with domestic flour and sold as the product of local mills.

There has existed among the people more or less prejudice against American flour of the lower grades. Claims have been made that it is sometimes mixed with milled wood, pease, maize, and the like. In spite of this, the low prices at which it has been sold have made it difficult, if not impossible, for the millers to compete with it. Hence the temptation for millers to mix American flour with their own, or rather their own with the American, as the proportion is said to be two parts of the latter to one of the former, and to sell the mixture as the product of their own mills, is naturally very great.

Nor does this temptation become less when it is found that this mixture exactly meets the demand of bakers as well as of consumers. American flour gives more bread to the pound than the domestic article. But it is claimed that bread made from pure American flour does not keep well; that it dries and becomes stale very quickly. It must always be kept in mind that here, as elsewhere in Europe, bread is never served warm. In order to impart this keeping or staying quality to their bread, the bakers, when using American flour, invariably reinforce it by the addition of about one-third of the domestic product. Now, if the millers do this for them it saves them the trouble, and bakers and millers are mutually benefited by it.

Whether the objection to American flour above referred to is well founded I can not say. The better quality of bread made here is evenly baked, spongy, and palatable, and is, in my opinion, not inferior to our own bakers' bread. It must be admitted that it seems to age rather better than the American bread; but whether the credit for this is to be given to the baker, to the flour, or to the climate, I shall not undertake to decide.

The outlook for an increased trade in American flour in the Netherlands is, in my opinion, very good. Our flour has gained a firm foothold in the country.

RYE FLOUR.

For rye flour there is but a limited demand. Rye bread is not common.

OAT AND CORN MEAL.

The demand for American and Scotch oatmeal is increasing. Figures are not to be obtained.

Corn meal is used to a limited extent in the breweries and distilleries. As an article of human food it is practically unknown in this country.

Attempts have been made to introduce it, but hitherto without success. Perhaps systematic and persevering efforts might prevail. Still the difficulties to be overcome are many and grave. Chief among these difficulties is, perhaps, the objection here, as elsewhere in Europe, to hot or warm bread. And even if warm bread were relished, it would be both expensive and troublesome to obtain it, as bread is seldom if ever made in the family kitchen. Fuel is expensive, and bakers' bread is both cheap and good. A 2-pound loaf is delivered for from 5 to 8 cents, according to quality.

GLUCOSE.

The consumption of glucose is rather small, and limited to home production on account of import duties.

STARCH.

Starch has for a long period been an important article of trade in the Netherlands. Some three hundred years ago it was made the object of speculation and was traded in for future delivery. Until thirty or forty years ago starch was almost exclusively made of wheat, and its price varied with the price of that cereal. The increasing consumption of cotton and linen goods and improved means of communication have created a strong demand for starch, and this demand has been partly met by the manufacture of rice and potato starch, and to some extent by adulteration of wheat starches.

About twenty years ago American corn starch began to be introduced. At first it was objected to on account of a "certain peculiar smell when boiled." All starches were then subject to an import duty of 40 cents per 220 pounds.

Since the removal of this duty American corn starch has been steadily gaining in popularity and is now a very salable article. Purchasers are especially pleased with the even quality of reliable American brands. These brands have been registered here by the owners or manufacturers. Corn starch is, however, considered inferior to wheat starch, and brings a slightly lower price.

Of late years several plants have been established at great cost for the manufacture of starch from maize. The American article has been imitated as closely as possible both in appearance and packing, and a keen competition has been kept up.

Rice starch, although a superior article, is not extensively sold here. There is a very well-conducted factory for this article at Utrecht, the product of which is mostly exported. Some rice starch is imported from Germany and Belgium.

Potato starch is extensively manufactured in the province of Groningen. The output, however, is somewhat dependent on potato crops, prices, and foreign legislation, as the article is chiefly manufactured for direct export.

Recent prices of starch.

[Per ton of 2,204.62 pounds.]

Wheat starch	$67.50
Corn starch	62.50
Rice starch	75.00
Potato starch	38.00

The consumption, production, imports, and exports are estimated as follows: Consumption of all starches, 5,000 tons of 2,204.62 pounds; importation (including 2,500 tons of American corn starch), 3,000 tons of 2,204.62 pounds; production (five-sixths of which is potato starch), 32,000 tons of 2,204.62 pounds; exportation (principally potato starch), 30,000 tons of 2,204.62 pounds.

DAIRY PRODUCTS.

Dairy products are staple articles of export. The production vastly exceeds the consumption. The yearly export of cheese is something more than 66,000,000 pounds. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, cheese to the value of $60,210 was invoiced at this consulate for the United States, and large shipments were made via New York to the West Indies.

Swiss and French cheeses are imported in limited quantities.

The wholesale price of cheese varies from 50 to 75 florins per 100 kilograms, or from 9 to 14 cents per pound.

Butter.—The production of butter, natural and artificial, is enormous. The annual exportation from 1891 to 1893 was as follows, expressed in English pounds:

Kinds.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Natural butter	29,341,000	21,214,000	28,608,000
Artificial butter	133,606,000	134,838,000	131,885,000
Total	162,947,000	156,052,000	160,493,000

Butter sells at retail at a price varying between 25 and 40 cents per pound, according to quality and season.

MEATS.

The consumption of meat is, perhaps, somewhat greater in the Netherlands than in the adjoining districts of Europe, the rawness of the climate making strong, substantial food a necessity. And yet meat is not often seen on the workingman's table; perhaps not more than once or twice a week. Pork is a more common dish among the poorer classes.

In 1893 the following number of animals was slaughtered for local consumption in Rotterdam, then a city of 228,000 inhabitants: 17,598 beeves, 7,524 calves, 1,364 unweaned calves, 1,541 horses, 20,114 hogs, 2 pigs, 2,966 sheep, 62 lambs, 347 goats, and 2 asses.

Export and import of beef and mutton for the Netherlands in 1891.

	Imported.	Exported.	Excess of exports.
	Pounds.	*Pounds.*	*Pounds.*
Fresh beef	708,400	10,536,600	9,828,200
Smoked beef	112,200	79,200	*a* 33,000
Fresh mutton	44,000	16,535,200	16,491,200
Smoked mutton	290,400	4,985,200	4,694,800

a Excess of imports.

The wholesale prices of meat are at present quoted as follows: Fresh beef, 9 to 12 cents per pound; fresh veal, 12 to 14 cents; fresh mutton, 10 to 13 cents; fresh pork, 5 to 6 cents.

CANNED MEATS.

The demand for canned meats is not great, except for the provision of ships.

There is a duty of $2.12 per 220 pounds for tins of 14, 6, or 4 pounds, and $10.05 per 220 pounds when put up in tins of less than 4 pounds weight.

It is difficult to say how much of the American canned meats imported to the Netherlands is consumed in the country, as a large portion of it is again exported to Germany. Australia and New Zealand, it is thought, threaten to become keen competitors of the United States in supplying this article of food.

During the last twelve months the price for 14-pound tins of corned beef has been about $14 per six tins. I have heard of no criticisms of the American product.

HAMS AND BACON.

Hams and bacon generally find a ready market, especially the latter. But during the last twelve months the demand has largely been met by the home product, and the profit on the imported article has been relatively small. Prices declined from $20 to $15.20 per 100 kilograms (220.462 pounds).

The import duty on bacon and hams is 50 cents per 220.462 pounds.

LARD.

The consumption of lard is considerable, and the consumers depend very largely on importations for their supply. Fully three-fourths of the lard used in the Netherlands are imported, and these three-fourths are practically furnished by the United States.

In 1893, the last year for which statistics as to quantities can be obtained, 78,500 tierces of lard were imported from the United States; in 1892, 111,600 tierces; in 1891, 62,200, and in 1890, 50,000.

In 1894 the average wholesale prices ran as follows:

Month.	Per pound.	Month.	Per pound.
	Cents.		*Cents.*
January	12½	July	8½@ 9
February	10½@12	August	10 @10½
March	9½@10	September	10½@11
April	10 @10½	October	9 @ 9½
May	9	November	8½@ 9
June	10	December	8½@ 9

The prices paid for American lard are relatively higher than those paid for lard from other countries.

I may state further that not less than 75 per cent of the lard which comes from the United States is known as neutral lard, and is made from the choicest pieces of leaf lard. This neutral lard is very extensively used by the manufacturers of butterin, especially during the cold season.

OLEOMARGARIN.

The manufacture of oleomargarin (here called margarin) is a very important industry.

The domestic consumption of this article of food is large and steadily increasing on account of its cheapness as compared with dairy butter, and the following enormous quantities were exported to England and other countries: 133,606,000, 134,838,000, and 131,885,000 pounds, during the years 1891, 1892, and 1893, respectively.

The United States has for at least twenty years been the chief source of the materials used in the manufacture of oleomargarin, excepting the articles milk, butter, nut oils and sesame seed oils.

Oleomargarin, as imported from the United States, is sold in packages, generally tierces, averaging 155 to 160 kilograms (341 to 353 pounds) each, on the basis of so many Dutch florins per 100 kilograms, 220.462 pounds, net weight; weighing being done on quay of the packages gross, and original tares deducted.

The choicest qualities of oleo oil, of neutral lard, and of cotton-seed oil are received from the United States, and the average prices obtained are somewhat above those paid for the products of any European country.

The quality or grade of oleomargarin materials is determined in very much the same way as that of dairy butter, being a matter of delicacy of taste. Only sweet and wholesome edible products are salable for oleomargarin manufacture. The classes of oleo oils imported from the United States average higher than European products.

A reduced level of prices for all oleomargarin products and materials prevailed throughout the year 1894, and the first quarter of 1895 compared even less favorably with previous periods of late years.

The improvement in refrigerator systems on board vessels has enabled England, the chief market for Dutch oleomargarin, to import

enormous supplies of choice dairy butter from Australia and New Zealand, and the manufacture of artificial butter is making headway both in England and Germany, in which latter country it is encouraged by a protective tariff.

Manufactured oleomargarin is not imported from the United States into this country, nor to any extent to any European country, owing as well to the economy of manufacturing in Europe as to the length of time required to place the commodity on the markets, a fresh article having the preference in trade.

The average consumption of oleo during the five years ending 1893 was 230,600 tierces a year, or 4,431 a week.

The imports from the United States were: In 1893, 225,100 tierces; in 1892, 230,439; in 1891, 189,500; in 1890, 264,000; and in 1889, 245,000 tierces.

For 1893 the imports are only preliminary estimates.

Highest and lowest prices for extra oleo oil.

Year.	Per pound.	Year.	Per pound.
1893:	*Cents.*	1890:	*Cents.*
Highest	14	Highest	11
Lowest	11	Lowest	9½
1892:		1889:	
Highest	12½	Highest	12
Lowest	9½	Lowest	8½
1891:			
Highest	15½		
Lowest	8½		

Prices of oleo in 1894.

Month.	Per pound.	Month.	Per pound.
January	$0.113@$0.12	July	$0.091@$0.092
February	.11 @ .113	August	(a)
March	.102	September	.102
April	.102	October	.091
May	.095@ .096	November	.09
June	.098@ .10	December	.09

a No quotation.

RAW COTTON.

Walter E. Gardner, United States consul at Rotterdam, under date of May 13, 1893, made the following report:

Cotton growing.—There is no cotton grown in the Netherlands. Experiments have been made by owners of private estates, also under the auspices of the Government department of agriculture, but have uniformly failed.

Cotton importation.—The Netherlands Government imposes neither import nor transit duties upon raw material or upon half fabrics (as cotton yarns); therefore imports in transit and those for consumption within the country are at the custom-house declared in the same way, with the result that separate statistics of transit imports and imports for consumption are nowhere kept.

As approximately correct, it may be stated, however, that the cotton imports at Amsterdam are mainly for home consumption, while those at Rotterdam are, for the greater part, imports in transit to Germany and other neighboring European countries.

The imports at Amsterdam per year since 1860 are therefore given, while those at Rotterdam are omitted as being without material relation to the question of cotton consumption in this country.

Year.	American cotton.	East Indian cotton and sundries.	Total.	Year.	American cotton.	East Indian cotton and sundries.	Total.
	Bales.	*Bales.*	*Bales.*		*Bales.*	*Bales.*	*Bales.*
1860	15,191	17,216	32,407	1877	59,468	15,498	74,966
1861	18,934	7,711	26,645	1878	65,666	21,443	87,109
1862	924	6,761	7,685	1879	70,054	28,193	98,247
1863	.....	6,791	6,791	1880	34,448	13,770	48,218
1864	585	14,073	14,658	1881	52,619	24,631	77,250
1865	106	13,904	14,010	1882	36,099	7,227	43,326
1866	3,155	26,723	29,878	1883	73,171	11,256	84,427
1867	6,881	20,589	27,470	1884	51,019	13,006	64,025
1868	17,427	37,299	54,726	1885	29,734	3,017	32,751
1869	15,116	30,994	46,110	1886	38,464	3,016	41,480
1870	30,955	25,011	55,966	1887	42,279	17,188	59,467
1871	119,976	43,212	163,188	1888	35,751	1,100	36,851
1872	59,763	103,424	163,187	1889	28,089	885	28,974
1873	42,519	24,168	66,687	1890	28,801	2,138	30,939
1874	40,276	19,398	59,674	1891	41,573	1,150	42,723
1875	27,178	28,703	55,881	1892	25,989	299	26,288
1876	56,438	37,066	93,504				

Average weight of bales, 400 pounds.

COTTON CONSUMPTION.

There are in the Netherlands eleven manufactories of cotton goods (grouped for the most part in the northerly province of Gelderland), which consume an annual average of 49,720 bales of raw cotton. These mills employ 20,000 power looms for cotton weaving, and the total of spindles working is 260,000.

The cotton used by the Netherlands factories is chiefly American, which is distinctly preferred. Its principal rival is the Surat cotton, which is employed to some extent only when it falls to a very low figure. So long as the American staple remains proportionately as cheap as the Surat it is almost exclusively used by the factories.

The Netherlands mills spin annually 180,000,000,000 yards of cotton yarn, and about as much more is annually imported from England. This yarn is converted into 160,000,000 yards of cotton cloth, about one-half of which is consumed within the Netherlands and one-half exported to the Dutch colonies and British Indies.

A statement showing approximately the imports, by pounds, of cotton yarns during 1889, 1890, and 1891, has been compiled, as follows:

Year.	Total imports.	Imports for consumption.	Imports for reexport.
	Pounds.	*Pounds.*	*Pounds.*
1889	96,476,307	42,451,855	55,596,442
1890	97,275,737	39,613,952	58,401,378
1891	96,389,392	40,598,461	51,943,355

Manufactured cotton products which enter into the Netherlands consumption are also imported from England and Germany in large quantities yearly, but statistics representing this trade are not obtainable.

Cotton is not mixed with other fibers (except wool) by the manufacturers of the Netherlands. As a wool mix in the making of material for cheaper grades of clothing and underclothing it is much employed and in this use it is steadily superseding flax, as being quite as strong in wear and cheaper.

Regarding hemp, jute, ramie, etc., as a cotton mix, the Dutch manufacturers know nothing.

In their published review of the cotton trade and manufacture of the Netherlands during the calendar years 1891–1892, Ellison & Co. write:

The last season was not a brilliant one for producers. In the early part the home trade was very slow, owing to the poor food crops, and though the export business was fairly good, it was not at remunerative prices. The falling prices of raw materials caused buyers to delay business as long as possible, which, along with the competition of England and Germany, reduced the margin between cotton and cotton products to an unprofitable basis. Those spinners who bought cotton too early came off badly, but those who were fortunate enough to get it at the decline did well. With good harvests at home and in the colonies the prospects for the next season are very favorable. The consumption of cotton, in spite of the difficulty of getting profitable prices for yarns and goods, has increased 8 to 10 per cent.

Stocks of cotton at the mills about same as last year; stocks of yarns and goods, unimportant. Increase in spindles 8,000; one mill with 12,000 burned, but a new one with 20,000 started.

Messrs. Van Alphen & Co., of Rotterdam, representative cotton brokers, write me:

The consumption of raw cotton in the Netherlands is not very large, but it is impossible to state to you what the spinners consume, as in the last few years no cotton has been imported for consumption in Rotterdam, while the cotton arriving here is generally bound for Germany and goes from here in transit, so that the spinners have to provide themselves in Liverpool.

Cotton is sold here per one-half kilogram (1.1 pounds), and the price to-day for American cotton is 20 cents per 1.1 pounds for middling.

Criticisms of American cotton we seldom hear.

Messrs. Mees & Moens, of Rotterdam, in their market report for 1893, write:

The article opened in a very sound condition. The advance, which had begun in 1892, was hailed as a precursor of consecutive firmness, and it was generally expected that a close of the strike in Lancashire would bring a revival and induce consumers to buy liberally. These hopes were frustrated. When the strike ended in March spinners in England, as well as in America, bought only sparingly, and the season opened with very large stocks instead of small ones, as had been expected.

The article was consequently ruled by the very conflicting crop advices, Bradstreet's giving a figure of 6,600,000 bales, whereas Niell published one of 7,750,000. As it was, operations were made, but very cautiously, and the year closed quiet and inactive at 24 cents for middling.

The following is a statement of the imports, sales, and exports, and stocks in Holland:

	Imports.		Sales and exports.		Stocks.	
	1892.	1893.	1892.	1893.	1892.	1893.
	Bales.	*Bales.*	*Bales.*	*Bales.*	*Bales.*	*Bales.*
North America	25,989	25,118	29,982	27,695	17,703	15,126
East India and other kinds	299	.....	1,009	806	306	.....
Total	26,288	25,118	30,991	28,501	18,009	15,126

In their market report for 1894 Mees & Moens write:

Cotton has been a fresh deception the past year. Although stocks had fallen off considerably before the new crop came in, buyers were very reserved in face of the extremely large crop estimates, going as high as 10,250,000 bales.

Prices ruled very low, and the present quotations are brought down to so moderate a point that trade is quietly going on, awaiting whether America will go on producing, or by curtailing the production aid consumption.

The following is a statement of the imports, sales, and exports, and stocks in Holland:

	Imports.		Sales and exports.		Stocks.	
	1893.	1894.	1893.	1894.	1893.	1894.
	Bales.	*Bales.*	*Bales.*	*Bales.*	*Bales.*	*Bales.*
North America	25,118	17,821	27,695	21,680	15,126	11,267
East India and other kinds	.....	566	806	66	.....	500
Total	25,118	18,387	28,501	21,746	15,126	11,767

COTTON-SEED OIL AND COTTON-SEED MEAL.

In regard to these articles the Holland-American Cotton Oil Company has favored me with the following information:

We may say, as regards cotton-seed meal, that the consumption in the Netherlands proper is very small, other kinds of cattle fodder being produced here cheaply, and farmers in Holland being very conservative and slow to change their methods, they use linseed cake, which they can buy from the numerous linseed mills in the country. Yet there appears to be some increase in the consumption of cotton-seed meal.

The consumption of cotton-seed oil is very heavy, chiefly for the manufacture of oleomargarine, or artificial butter, in which industry Holland is the most important country in the world. It is estimated that every year about 80,000 or 100,000 barrels, of 50 gallons each, are imported into Holland from the United States, of which perhaps one-fourth leaves the country again.

Consumers of cotton-seed meal depend entirely on importations from the United States. They could import also from England, but the English product is of inferior quality, the seed not having been decorticated before pressing, so that there is a considerable quantity of hulls in the English cake and meal.

As regards the oil, consumers also have to depend entirely on importations, chiefly from the United States and to some extent from France and England. France sends a superior quality, notably Marseilles, while England sends a grade far inferior to the American product, partly for churners and partly for soap makers.

The United States ranks first as regards quantities both of cotton-seed meal and oil furnished to Dutch consumers.

The meal is sold in bags of 100 pounds, chiefly at retail, by the importers to the farmers, and prices have fluctuated this year and last between $2.20 and $2.80 per 220 pounds.

The oil is imported here partly in barrels of 50 gallons each, partly in bulk by our company, and sold here either barreled, or in bulk by tank car or tank lighter. Prices of the best oil have come down gradually from $14 to about $10 per 220 pounds net, while lower grades, for cheap butterine and for soap purposes, have been selling lately at between $8 and $10.80. A price of $10 for fine oil is unusually low, and not likely to last; several adverse circumstances brought about this decline. Prices for the American products are always higher than for those from other countries, so far as the meal is concerned, and as regards oil, there is only some cotton-seed oil from Marseilles which has undergone a special, expensive treatment, which fetches a higher price than the American oil.

We do not know of any adverse criticisms of any of the products mentioned.

The Rotterdam Chamber of Commerce in their annual report for 1893, the latest issued, makes the following statement:

Purified cotton-seed oil.—The market opened at $14 per 220 pounds net, for prime brands, with low supplies and small arrivals, and owing to the almost complete want of fine qualities commanded even the unheard-of rate of $20. Our manufacturers were even forced to buy at Trieste and Marseilles the little that was to be had there.

Later in the season the situation grew more favorable with ampler supplies and a marked fall in lard prices (which greatly influence cotton oil, on account of its use in the composition of the so-called "compound lard"). Prices slowly receded, until the beginning of June prime brands, such as "Union Aldige," "Netherlands," etc., were dealt in at $16 per 220 pounds. Then followed a sharp and fast decline, so that in August the spot value at Rotterdam was $12.82 to $12 per 220 pounds net, and enormous parcels of the new season changed hands for future delivery at $12 to $11.60 per 220 pounds.

Spot values for oil, however, recovered in September and October by reason of the temporary small supplies and rose to $14.80, so that futures also went up, large contracts being made even at $13.73 per 220 pounds.

In December prices for somewhat later delivery receded to $12.40 to $12.20 per 220 pounds. With low quotations for lard the consumption of "compound lard" is much smaller, so that large arrivals of cotton oil may be looked for in 1894.

Exact figures for the arrivals in 1893 can not well be given, much cotton oil being imported from Trieste, Genoa, Marseilles, etc., via England. If such indirect imports are estimated at about 13,000 barrels of about 386 pounds each, the total imports of American cotton oil have amounted to about 90,000 barrels, against 100,000 in 1892.

Mr. M. L. Noordijk, of Rotterdam, writes regarding cotton-seed oil in his annual report for 1894:

Cotton-seed oil was imported this year in larger quantities than ever before, and on account of the reasonable prices very much was consumed. The imports amounted to 128,000 barrels, against 90,000 barrels in 1893 and about 100,000 in 1892. In January and February best qualities brought $13.20 to $12.80 per 220 pounds. After that date prices went down for good qualities to $12 to $11.20 per 220 pounds, while inferior qualities were sold at $10 to $8.80 per 220 pounds.

As during the past year, we can again anticipate a large production of cotton-seed oil, on account of the large cotton crop, and again we hear complaints that fine seed is very scarce.

TOBACCO.

Tobacco is one of the great staples of trade in the Netherlands. The consumption of tobacco, especially in the form of cigars, is enormous. In no country is smoking so common. It is nothing uncommon to see a father accommodate his 10-year-old boy with a light. Tobacco is not considered an article of luxury, but is classed with the necessaries of life, especially among the poor. The import duty is only nominal—28 cents per 220 pounds of unmanufactured tobacco. An attempt to raise the tax was strenuously resented by the people.

The home production of tobacco is limited and the quality inferior. It is raised in the provinces of Guelderland, Utrecht, North Brabant, and Limburg. In 1892, 1,443 acres were planted to tobacco, yielding 2,756,000 pounds. The average acreage and yield of previous years were somewhat greater. But of course this is only a small fraction of the amount consumed, imported, and reexported.

The chief sources of importation are the United States and the Dutch East Indies. The total imports of tobacco into the Netherlands in 1894 were: From the United States—Maryland and Ohio, 8,146 hogsheads; Virginia and Kentucky, 1,862 hogsheads; a total of 10,008 hogsheads, besides 1,174 bales of seed leaf, which tobacco was probably mostly consumed by the Dutch manufacturers of smoking tobacco. From other countries: Java, 187,692 bales, average weight 220 pounds; Sumatra, 163,464 bales, average weight 176 pounds; Borneo, 9,120 bales; Molucca, 485 bales; New Guinea, 382 bales; East Africa, 221 bales; Manila, 772 bales; Greece and Turkey, 11,707 bales, and Havana, 2,090 bales; a total of 375,933 bales.

Most of the tobacco mentioned is again exported, principally from Amsterdam, which is one of the chief tobacco markets of the world. As to the exports of tobacco no satisfactory statistics are to be obtained.

The prices paid were: For Java tobacco, from 3 to 14 cents per pound; Sumatra, 7½ to 78 cents; Borneo, 11 to 76 cents; New Guinea, 43 to 48 cents; and East Africa, about 5½ cents.

The Java tobacco is generally consumed by home manufacturers. The choicest assortments of Sumatra are exported to the United States. According to T. Meerkamp Van Embden & Sons about 45,000 bales of Sumatra tobacco, representing in value more than one-half of the entire crop of the previous year, were sent to the United States in 1894.

FRESH FRUIT.

The demand for fresh fruit is moderate, and is, except as to oranges, lemons, and certain kinds of grapes, limited to home products. Southern Europe, especially Italy, furnishes the major portion of the fresh fruit imported. Fruit is sold by the basket, and wholesale prices vary daily, according to the supply on the market.

According to information furnished by Messrs. Van der Horst, the average crop of cherries during the last five years was about 3,500,000 pounds, of which England took about 3,000,000 pounds, in baskets of 11 pounds each at 2 to 3 cents per pound. Average annual crop of gooseberries was 3,300,000 pounds, of which 220,000 pounds were consumed in Holland and the rest sent to England, at 1½ to 2 cents per pound. The black currant crop averages annually 1,100,000 pounds. Distilleries use 200,000 pounds, at 4½ to 5 cents per pound. The remainder goes to England in baskets, at 4½ to 5 cents per pound. The annual red currant crop is about 5,500,000 pounds, of which 2,640,000 pounds are used by juice manufacturers and sold in the markets at about 2 cents per pound. The remainder goes to England. The pear crop averages 13,200,000 pounds. About half is consumed, fresh, in England; the other half, fresh and dried, in Holland. Prices range from $1.20 to $2 per 132 pounds. The average annual production of apples amounts to 26,400,000 pounds, of which 19,800,000 pounds go to England; the remainder is used, fresh and dried, in Holland. Price, $1 to $1.40 per 132 pounds. Of plums the average annual product is 1,760,000 pounds, one-half of which is used in Holland and one-half in England, exported in baskets of 33 to 110 pounds, at $1.20 to $1.40 per 110 pounds. No American fresh fruit is imported.

DRIED FRUIT.

Dried fruit, as apples, pears, and prunes, are in fair demand.

Messrs. Frans van der Vijver & Co., of Rotterdam, representative importers of dried fruits, write:

The consumption of dried apples and pears is rather important in the Netherlands. Other dried fruits are of less significance. The home production of dried apples and pears is not sufficient for the consumption, so that a part must be imported. Most is imported from America, and further supplies come from France, Germany, and Switzerland. The product here imported is sold by the wholesale merchants in the interior. The prices to be obtained depend entirely on the size of the crop and vary every year.

This year there was paid for prime State and choice Western quartered apples from $13.60 to $15.20 per 220 pounds. For evaporated apples from $15.20 to $16.80 was paid per 220 pounds.

The highest prices are usually obtained for the dried fruits produced at home, next highest for American and French fruit, and the lowest prices are given for German and Swiss products.

As regards the American products, complaints are frequently made about the false packing—that is, that American packers put a fine layer of fruit on the top in the barrels and in the center the fruit is of an inferior quality.

Statistics as to the imports of dried fruits are not obtainable. I do not believe that dried fruits are exported from Holland.

CANNED FRUITS.

From information furnished by Messrs. Korpman & Co., of Amsterdam, it appears that the consumption of canned fruits is not very considerable. Exact figures can not be given.

Little if any fruit is canned in the Netherlands. Whatever of this article of food is consumed is imported, principally, perhaps, from the United States, either directly or through British or Hamburg houses. Some also comes from France and the Indies.

American canned fruits, especially from California, are considered the best in the market, and command the highest prices, if of well-reputed brands. It may be safely stated that the American method of canning fruits is in no respect inferior to that practiced elsewhere.

The import duty on fruit canned in tins is $10 per 220 pounds.

NUTS.

Nuts are chiefly imported from France and Chile.

LIQUORS.

Wines.—I am indebted to Messrs. M. Reuchlin & Son for the information contained in the following statement:

In proportion to the population of Holland, the consumption of wine can not be called great. It is estimated at about 100,000 hectoliters (2,641,700 gallons). It is thought that there is a slow but steady decrease in the consumption of wine, owing, perhaps, to the growing popularity of beer.

In the matter of wine the Netherlands depends entirely upon importation. The supply is derived from France, Spain, Italy, Portugal, Algeria, Hungary, Servia, Germany, and of late, to some extent, from California.

France easily leads, and French wines are asked for and sold under their original names. Spanish (except sherry) and Italian wines are not sold, but are extensively used for mixing with inferior Bordeaux claret; likewise the Algerian wines, though lately some of these are sold unmixed.

It is difficult to fix an average price for an article like wine, where there is such a difference in quality. However, it may be stated that good, unblended medium Bordeaux claret, according to quality and vintage, is imported at prices varying from $12 to $24 per hectoliter (26.42 gallons), casks included. Algerian, Spanish, and Italian clarets bring 20 to 30 per cent less.

As long as Bordeaux clarets are almost exclusively in demand, other wines can only be of importance in the Holland trade for blending purposes. California wines have been put in the market here, but so far the sale has not been encouraging. For blending with the Bordeaux clarets the California wines are too high priced, as compared with Spanish, Italian, and Algerian clarets of equal vintages. These latter are imported about half a year after vintage at a price varying from $5.60 to $7.20 for medium and $9 to $11 per hectoliter (26.42 gallons) for the better qualities, casks included.

No young California wines have been placed on the market here. Clarets from two to three years old have been delivered here for $12 to $20 per hectoliter, and at that price they can hardly compete with south European and Algerian wines. As to quality, it is the opinion of prominent wine merchants that California wines in richness and color compare favorably with south European wines; that in purity of taste they are even superior; yet, in general, they are not to the liking of consumers here.

It is thought that if these wines were sent here quite young, and handled in accordance with the methods which the climatic conditions of this part of Europe seem to require, the chances for successful competition with French and other European wines would be very much enhanced.

Brandies.—The importation of brandies and foreign spirits in general is not considerable, as the home manufactured gin or geneva offers a cheaper and, it is thought, healthier beverage.

France supplies the greater part of the brandies consumed. There are importations from Algiers, Portugal, Italy, and California. An inferior quality of brandy is also made in this country. Prices paid for brandy vary so much according to quality and age that a general statement is of little value. The demand for California brandies is very limited, as consumers have become accustomed to French cognac brandies and find them sweeter and more agreeable in taste than the Californian product. It may be questioned, however, whether the better qualities of California brandies have been offered in the Netherlands markets.

Beer.—Beer is a very common beverage. Home manufacture seems sufficient to supply the demand. Some choice German beers (mostly from Munich) are imported. American beer is unknown.

Cider.—Apple cider is practically unknown as an article of trade.

FLAXSEED.

Messrs. F. Dutilh & Co., of Rotterdam, have favored me with the following statement regarding flaxseed:

We beg to say that the average acreage of flax under cultivation is about 36,000, for the seeding of which growers apply partly their own home seed, but must necessarily supplement it with imported seed to refresh and invigorate the flax plant.

All the imported seed comes from Russia, and Holland only takes the very choicest quality. Riga or Russian seed is imported in sacks of about 84 kilograms, or 185 pounds, and prices range according to conditions of crops from $4.80 to $7.20 per sack, delivered at Rotterdam.

We never heard of American flaxseed being imported for sowing purposes.

It is highly objectionable for any flax-growing country to continue sowing the seed produced at home, as this weakens the plant. Periodical refreshment by use of good foreign seed is necessary. Experience has taught that such changes of seed must be from eastern to western and from northern to southern countries.

CLOVER AND OTHER GRASS SEEDS.

Native clover seed is preferred. If the crop is insufficient to supply the demand, German seed finds a ready market. American clover seed is not thought so well adapted for Holland as European seed. It is objected to as being too fine-grained, producing a shorter and weaker plant than the native and German seed. For purity and germinating power it is considered very superior.

With the exception of timothy, American grass seeds are but little used and do not command as high prices as European seeds.

Clover seed is sold per 50 kilograms (110 pounds), and prices run from $11.60 for prime American seed to $24 for extra bold Dutch seed.

O

NOTE ON THE METRIC SYSTEM.

The following is mostly compiled from publications of the Coast and Geodetic Survey of the United States.

The Constitution of the United States provides that Congress "shall fix the standard of weights and measures." The customary weights and measures of the country are derived from those which were lawful during colonial times, and are almost entirely of English origin. Much interest was shown on the subject in the early days of the Republic by the most eminent men of that time, especially by Washington and Jefferson, who recommended action by Congress in that direction. Up to 1828 there had been no legislation on the subject, but an act was passed that year that a certain piece of brass, now known as the troy pound, should constitute the standard by means of which the coinage of the United States should be regulated. In 1836 an act was passed which provided that a full set or copy of the standards of weights and measures, as provided by the Treasury Department for the use of the customs service, should be prepared in the office of the Superintendent of Weights and Measures and delivered to the governor of each State in the Union. This was done, and went far toward procuring uniformity in the standards. The primary yard and pound adopted by the Executive Departments of the Government soon became practically the standards of the whole country.

The metric system is based on the ten-millionth part of a quadrant of a meridian circle measured by calculation from the north pole to the equator, as explained by a diagram of the system printed on the back of this report. The superior character of this system, both for its simplicity and scientific precision, was recognized at an early day by those who were interested in the subject of weights and measures in this country, and, after much agitation on the subject, Congress, in July, 1866, passed the important act by which the metric system of weights and measures is authorized and made lawful throughout the United States; and about the same time, to further the practical use of this system, Congress passed a joint resolution authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to distribute to each State of the Union a set of metric standards of weights and measures, which was done.

The metric system of weights and measures, standards for which have been constructed in accordance with the highest requirements of metrological science, has received the approval of the civilized world, and Congress has for many years authorized and sustained the participation on the part of the United States Government in all the operations which the International Bureau of Weights and Measures advocated.

Our present system of weights and measures has for its sole recommendation that it has been in common use for many years. It is irrational in theory, irksome in practice, and has been condemned by all who have had practice in the use of weights and measures. Furthermore, it has never been authorized or made lawful by act of Congress, and is almost without authorization in the history of Congressional legislation.

METRIC SYSTEM.

ELEMENTS OF THE SYSTEM.

Length.	Surface.	Capacity.	Weight.	Notation.
			Metric ton.	1,000,000
			Quintal.	100,000
Myriameter.			Myriagram.	10,000
Kilometer.		Kiloliter.	Kilogram.	1,000
Hectometer.	Hectare.	Hectoliter.	Hectogram.	100
Decameter.	Decare.	Decaliter.	Decagram.	10
METER.	ARE.	LITER.	GRAM.	1
Decimeter.		Deciliter.	Decigram.	0.1
Centimeter.	Centiare.	Centiliter.	Centigram.	0.01
Millimeter.		Milliliter.	Milligram.	0.001

EQUIVALENTS OF CUSTOMARY AND METRIC WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

1 kilometer	=	0.62137 mile.	1 mile	=	1.60935 kilometers.
1 meter	=	3.28083 feet.	1 yard	=	0.914402 meter.
1 centimeter	=	0.3937 inch.	1 foot	=	0.304801 meter.
1 hectare	=	2.471 acres.	1 inch	=	25.4001 millimeters.
1 are	=	119.6 square yards.	1 square mile	=	2.59 square kilometers.
1 metric ton	=	2,204.62 pounds.	1 acre	=	0.4047 hectare.
1 kilogram	=	2.20462 pounds.	1 square foot	=	9.29 square decimeters.
1 gram	=	15.43236 grains.	1 pound	=	0.45359 kilogram.
1 hectoliter	=	2.8377 bushels.	1 grain	=	64.7989 milligrams.
1 hectoliter	=	26.417 gallons.	1 bushel	=	0.35239 hectoliter.
1 liter	=	1.0567 quarts.	1 gallon	=	3.78543 liters.
1 stere	=	1.308 cubic yards.	1 cubic foot	=	0.02832 cubic meter.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN UNITED STATES AND BRITISH MEASURES.

1 Imperial bushel equals 2,218.192 cubic inches.
1 Winchester bushel (used in United States) equals 2,150.42 cubic inches.
1 Imperial gallon equals 277.274 cubic inches.
1 wine gallon (as used in United States) equals 231 cubic inches.

RULES.

1. To reduce Imperial bushels to Winchester bushels, multiply the number of Imperial bushels by 1.03152.
2. To reduce Winchester bushels to Imperial bushels, multiply the number of Winchester bushels by 0.969447.
3. To reduce Imperial gallons to United States wine gallons, multiply the number of Imperial gallons by 1.20052.
4. To reduce United States wine gallons to Imperial gallons, multiply the number of wine gallons by 0.833111.